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# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 33 • No. 8 • 20 February 2003

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

## Gay Pakistani in SF seeks asylum

by Mark Mardon

Keshav Jiwnani, better known in San Francisco as DJ KJ, the man who rules the turntables at Pink Saturday and Halloween in the Cas-



Keshav Jiwnani

tro, and at various Civic Center stages at Gay Pride celebrations, was born gay and of Indian/Hindu descent in mostly Muslim Karachi, Pakistan, some 34 years ago. Hindus make up less than 1 percent of the population of Pakistan, and hostilities between Muslims and Hindus, as witnessed by the recent nuclear saber rattling between Pakistan and India, are at an all-time high. Being both gay and Hindu in Muslim Pakistan put KJ in a situation of double jeopardy early on in life.

"I knew I was gay as a little child, 9, 10 or 11," said KJ. "At first it was just childhood curiosity, but then I started hearing *gandoo* – 'fag' in Urdu – said to my face."

To say the least, being openly gay was never an option for him in Karachi, so he made his way at last to

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## 200,000 protest war in Iraq

by Liz Highleyman

Tens of thousands of people marched for peace and rallied against war on Iraq in San Francisco on Sunday, February 16. During the rally, a breakaway group of about 1,000 protesters snaked through the downtown area and skirmished with police; about 50 people were arrested.

By the announced 1 p.m. starting time of the rally, Market Street was already filled from the Embarcadero to Civic Center Plaza. Police put the crowd at 200,000, while organizers claimed a quarter million.

Bay Area LGBT activists numbered in the hundreds as they participated in the day's events. Among the hundreds of marching contingents was the Out Against the War Coalition, comprised of about 300 people. The contingent included the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, Lesbian and Gay Insurrection, Queers Undermining Israeli Tyranny, and members of the LGBT Pride Committee. Kate Raphael, a member of LAGAI and QUIT who recently returned from Palestine, spoke at the opening rally at the Embarcadero.

"It was a weekend of the whole world saying no to Bush's war, and I am proud that queers were visible among those who sent that message to the White House," said activist Tommi Avicolli Mecca.

The march concluded a global weekend of antiwar activities that began in Australia last Friday. An estimated 500,000 people marched in Berlin, 750,000 in London, and 1 million in Rome. One of the largest U.S. events took place Saturday in New York City; an estimated 200,000 protesters held a rally near the United Nations after police denied a permit to march. San Francisco's march was moved to Sunday to accommodate Saturday's Chinese New Year's Parade.

Sunday's breakaway march included members of the anarchist Black Bloc and the radical queer group Gay Shame, but – at

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Emma Ramstad, left, adjusts the costume of friend Liz Solimine. The women were just two of the 200,000-plus participants in the antiwar demonstration Sunday, February 16 in San Francisco.

## Ark House readies to leave Castro home

by Matthew S. Bajko

As residents of Ark House, a Castro-based transitional housing program for homeless queer youth, prepare to move next month, the program's future is in question.

Due to the pending move, the program stopped accepting new clients late last year and is cutting its capacity from 15 to nine beds. The program will also have its budget cut in half due to its relocation to a temporary facility on Fell Street near Golden Gate Park's panhandle.

The changes are "going to impact future prospective residents instead of current residents," said Eric Politzer, director of youth programs and special projects for Ark of Refuge, a nonprofit contracted by the city's health department to oversee the housing program. "Basically what is going to happen is a number of current residents will be graduating from the program at the time of the move. It will not impact any current individuals who are part of the program."

The program's downsizing is only temporary, said Politzer. While it cannot help as many homeless queer youth as it would like, the agency is committed to maintaining the services it provides, he said.

"Everybody has had to tighten their belts," Politzer said. "This does limit in the short term some of the options but we do expect funding to return at some point. The idea is to find the most appropriate site and worry about the finances at that point."

Finding a permanent location for Ark House is of utmost concern to the program's supporters. Currently housed in the former City Athletic Club at 2500 Market Street, the program's administrators agreed to move out by April of this year as a compromise to near-

by residents, who were wary of the program's impact on their neighborhood. Ark of Refuge and city officials have been searching for a permanent home for the facility practically from the moment it opened its doors two years ago.

"This has always been an issue of great concern for me. Knowing we had specifically two years on the lease at the Castro location, we have been looking for the next site ever since," said state Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), who championed the project while on the city's Board of Supervisors. "And just prior to leaving City Hall, I was meeting with Eric and the folks from Ark of Refuge and they are very interested in incorporating a permanent home for this program in a project their

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## No hibernation for these bears



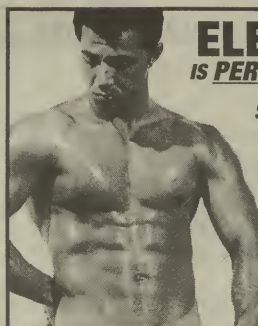
Winners of the ninth annual International Bear Rendezvous' "International Bear Competition" line up for their onstage portrait following the February 16 contest. From left, International Mr. Bear Klaus Regel of Cologne, Germany; International Daddy Bear Roger Spencer from Cincinnati; Mr. International Bear Cub Ian Urwin from Newcastle, England; and International Grizzly Bear David Mendelson from Seattle. Hundreds of bears attended IBR, which is produced by Bears of San Francisco.

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FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS





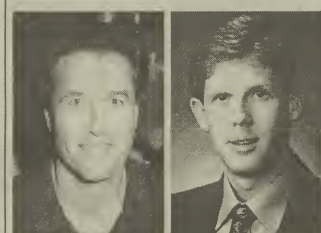
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## Valentine's Day celebrated



As Donna Sachet, right, looks on, Carlos and James cut the cake at Our Family Coalition's "Valentine's Night Out" held February 14 at the LGBT Community Center. About 70 people attended the event, which featured domestic partner registration, dancing, and entertainment.

## Star witness testifies at Gwen Araujo hearing

by Joe Dignan

The prosecution's star witness in the Gwen Araujo killing took the stand Wednesday, February 19 and finally made public the details of Araujo's final hours before her brutal murder on October 4.

Araujo was born Edward but identified and lived as a woman.

Four defendants, Jason Cazares, 22, Michael Magidson, 22, Jose Merel, 23, and Jaron Nabors, 19, are charged with murder and a hate crime enhancement. All four have pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Nicole Brown testified that at about 3:30 or 4 a.m., after a night of drinking and "partying," she and then-boyfriend Paul Merel went to bed, leaving the four defendants and Araujo, whom they knew as "Lida," alone in the kitchen of the Merels' Newark house. She said that about half an hour later, she was awakened by

shouting from the kitchen.

When she went into the kitchen, Brown related, she found the four defendants still with Araujo.

"I see Jose screaming in Lida's face, she's in the corner, two inches from the wall."

"He's screaming, 'Are you a man or a woman?'" Brown testified.

The questioning, Brown said, went on for five minutes.

"How would you describe the tone?" asked prosecutor Connie Campbell.

"Angry," answered Brown. From the witness stand, Brown said that Araujo kept her head down the entire time that Jose Merel was shouting at her.

"She just kept her head down the whole time?" asked prosecutor Campbell.

"Correct," replied Brown. Brown said she questioned the defendants. "Why are you guys asking her this?"

Finally, however, Brown said

Magidson took Araujo into the bathroom.

"He said he was going to take her in the bathroom and find out if she's a man or a woman," Brown said.

"Did she resist," asked Campbell.

"No," replied Brown.

"Mike was in the bathroom with Lida for 30 to 45 minutes," Brown related.

During that time, the other three defendants and Brown talked about their relationships with Araujo.

Jose Merel admitted he had had sex with Araujo.

"He had a sexual relationship with Lida," Brown said.

"What kind?" prosecutor Campbell asked.

"Anal sex," Brown answered.

"What words did he use?" Campbell asked.

"He said, 'I had sex in her bootie,'" Brown answered.

Recounting Jose Merel's words,

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## Endorsement fracas hits Ammiano campaign

by Joe Dignan

In a snafu just days before his official campaign kickoff for mayor, San Francisco Supervisor Tom Ammiano had to shut down part of his Web site last weekend after it was reported that several people listed as endorsers had not in fact endorsed him.

Ammiano was scheduled to host his kickoff Wednesday, February 19.

Ammiano's campaign Web site had falsely listed Supervisor Aaron Peskin, Richard Ow, BART director Tom Radulovich, Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, Health Director Mitch Katz, and former Assessor Doris Ward as endorsers of Ammiano's candidacy for mayor.

The *San Francisco Examiner* first reported the story in its February 17 edition.

According to the *Examiner* report, the campaign quickly pulled the offending Web page, but not before it had raised the hackles of

the prominent politicos who had been listed. Ammiano campaign manager Bob Henderson said that the problem was that campaign volunteers hadn't understood that donors to a campaign and endorsers are not the same thing.

"It was simple matter of not understanding the difference between a donor list and an endorser's list," said Henderson.

According to Henderson, most had donated money to the campaign, but had not made their endorsement commitments in the mayor's race. It is common practice for an individual to contribute to several campaigns, said University of California Berkeley political science Professor Bruce Cain, but an endorsement, "is the next step."

The fracas is eerily reminiscent of a dustup involving defeated Assembly candidate Harry Britt, whose campaign — which was backed by Ammiano — made a similar mistake in January 2002 and erroneously listed several

donors as endorsers, including then-Assessor Ward.

"When there's an error, you move fast and take care of it, and that's what we've done," Ammiano said.

At this point, Ammiano's shoe-string campaign has only one and a half employees, and has raised just \$53,000 compared to rival candidate Supervisor Gavin Newsom's \$573,000.

"Just about 11 times as much," Henderson noted of Newsom's campaign war chest.

But in a poll commissioned by the Committee on Jobs, a pro-business lobbying group, and leaked to media outlets this week, while Newsom pulled 36 percent support among the 500 respondents, Ammiano managed 21 percent. Former Supervisor Angela Alioto drew 13 percent and Board of Equalization Chair Carole Migden was fourth with 9 percent. City Treasurer Susan Leal and former Police Chief Tony Ribera tied at 4 percent each. ▼



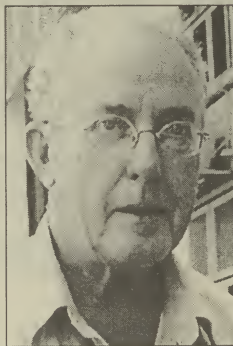
## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Community silent as Thomas White faces child sex charges

by Zak Szymanski

Citing the American legal tradition of due process, most LGBT and community groups this week were reluctant to comment on the February 11 arrest of local gay businessman and philanthropist Thomas Frank White, who was picked up last week in Thailand on Mexican charges of alleged child sexual abuse, child prostitution, and providing drugs to children. White also faces a civil suit in San Francisco filed by a man who claims that White sexually abused him when he was 17 years old.

White, 68, has denied the charges, and phone calls to his attorney Nanci Clarence seeking comment were not returned to the *Bay Area Reporter* by press time. But earlier statements from friends in articles published in the *San Francisco Chronicle* insist the charges are based on prejudice toward gays, and others have emphasized the good deeds White has done with his money, which include building schools, labs, and recreation centers here and abroad. A \$250,000 donation from White, in fact, went to the new LGBT Community Center in



Thomas Frank White

San Francisco.

Because the investigation is still pending, LGBT center Executive Director Brian Cheu said there are no plans to take any action with White's donation, which has thus far been used to hold a space for a not-yet-realized cafe in the building.

But the charges may, at the very least, promote a dialogue within the community, both about the unfair pedophilia stigma sometimes attached to gays, as well as the very real practice of

some gays who choose to engage in sex with minors for money.

Many people already don't wish to acknowledge the difference between those who choose prostitution, and minors who must have survival sex in order to meet basic needs, creating a power imbalance that many child welfare advocates believe cannot be construed as consent.

But not having the dialogue won't make it go away, as a city coalition can attest with a new program aimed at stopping the exploitation of local young people (see story below).

Likewise, while the unfair gay pedophilia stigma has not come up as a significant issue for his organization, said Rocky Morrison, executive director of the Our Family Coalition, "certainly with all the stereotypes thrown in our faces, it seems like something our community could address, although I don't know who would take the lead on that."

The challenge may be, in the midst of cases like White's, to create a dialogue that does not stigmatize or favor one group of gays over the other, and that acknowledge both the prejudices and problems inherent to some sex practices. ▽

## City coalition tackles child exploitation

by Zak Szymanski

San Francisco's runaways – which include a large population of LGBT youth and/or kids from abusive homes – often find that they have very few options for work and shelter in the city.

So when these minors turn to sex work in exchange for money, housing, or other needs, advocates working for a coalition to end youth exploitation are em-

phasizing that such kids are not "child prostitutes" – but rather, child victims, who are not choosing a trade but simply trying to survive.

The End Youth Exploitation Task Force, created by the Board of Supervisors last year and made up of city service providers and philanthropists, estimates that up to 3,000 young girls – some as young as 10 years old – are forced to work in the sex trades in San Francisco.

"They are raped, beaten,

drugged, and shackled by adults," said a statement from the San Francisco Foundation, a member of the task force that has taken the lead in trying to raise funds for a program to help such children. "Many are residents of our neighborhoods – the Mission, Bayview Hunters Point, Polk Street corridor, and Tenderloin. These youth, some of whom are runaways, some who live in abusive families, out of desperation trade sex to meet survival needs for food and

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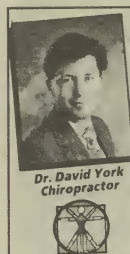
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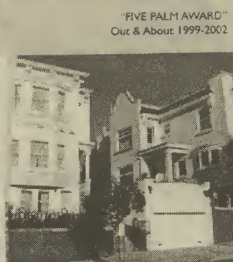
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## 'No Secret Anymore' premiere



Jane Philamen Cleland

Lesbian icons Phyllis Lyon, center, and Del Martin, right, share a light moment with director JEB (Joan E. Biren) during the February 13 world premiere of Biren's documentary *No Secret Anymore: The Times of Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon* at the Castro Theatre. The sold-out event was held on the eve of Lyon and Martin's 50th anniversary and brought tributes from many in attendance. "I consider this evening a chance for all of us to say thank you to them," said emcee Jewelle Gomez. The film, a Woman Vision and Moonforce Media production, was produced by Biren and Dee Mosbacher.

## City's response to staph infections draws fire

by Matthew S. Bajko

The city's response to reports of a drug resistant skin infection among gay men came under attack this week during a public forum about the recent outbreak seen in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Since last summer doctors throughout California have reported cases of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MSRA) among their gay patients. After news accounts of the infections hit earlier this month, doctors across the country have begun reporting they also have seen cases of MSRA in their gay patients.

This particularly virulent drug resistant staph infection is not treatable with common antibiotics, and if not tended to correctly, can quickly become a serious health threat. At issue is how the

Department of Public Health plans to track the number of drug resistant staph infections and how much of a concern the outbreak is to the gay community.

Some of the more than 150 people in attendance at the forum Tuesday, February 18 criticized health officials and the media for presenting the infections as another so-called gay disease.

"Clearly part of the reason some of us are here tonight is the media lead people to believe this was another health threat to the gay community," said Steven Tierney, the city's director of HIV prevention. "Everyone is at risk. This is not just a challenge to the MSM [men who have sex with men] community, it affects all communities."

For more than two decades, health officials have monitored MSRA infections among high school athletes, Alaskan natives, prison inmates, hospital workers,

and injection drug users. Some men in attendance questioned why health officials now seemed focused solely on gay men.

"Is there staph or is there gay staph? This is how HIV got out of control," said Anthony, who identified himself as an advocate and didn't give his last name. "If this is not a new resistant strain and its been in hospitals for 20 years, we don't need to start interviewing gay men in San Francisco who happen to be in more hot sweaty places than the rest of Americans."

Determining precisely how many gay men have MSRA poses a challenge to health officials because many doctors fail to recognize the staph infection nor are they required to report the cases. Also, faced with overseeing the city's bioterrorism efforts and growing budget constraints, the city's health official in charge of dealing with disease control said there is only so

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## Milk Club elects new board, expands vision

by Zak Szymanski

The Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club's recent elections brought three new

members to the executive board and saw the return of three other board members, including Robert Haaland, 38, who is now the club's first transgender president.

The Milk Club, founded by the late Supervisor Harvey Milk and still known today for its progressive politics, voted in Haaland for the top spot, as well as Howard Wallace as internal vice president and Enrique Asis as vice president of political affairs. Treasurer is Peter Wong, correspondent is Tracy Baxter, and recorder is Michael Goldstein. The new co-chair for the political action committee is Christina Olague. Haaland, Wong, and Asis are all returning board members; Haaland served as vice president last year and ran for president last month when Debra Walker decided not to seek re-election.

The new board is poised to lead the club on an issues-oriented platform, according to Haaland, who cited the group's anti-

war efforts as demonstrative of its ability to build diverse coalitions. Global issues such as the impending war in Iraq and the erosion of civil liberties under the Bush administration will remain an important focus for the Milk Club.

"We face an incredibly difficult year. Republicans control the House, the Senate, and White House. Bush is leading our country into a war that will irrevocably worsen the situation in the Middle East. The club needs to stand in solid opposition to war with Iraq, marching, writing letters, calling our representatives, and adding its voice to the growing chorus of activists demanding a peaceful solution," said Haaland.

Labor leader and community activist Wallace, according to the Milk Club, will continue his efforts in organizing against the war, and Asis, who has promised to focus on the government's dis-

next page ►



## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Mayoral candidate begins ride of his life

by Zak Szymanski

Jim Reid was wearing a dark gray suit and carrying a case that at first glance distinguished him from many of the riders on the 49 Muni line.

The division quickly dissipated, however, once Reid opened his mouth and extended his hand, making his way to the back of the bus.

"Hi, my name is Jim Reid, and I'm running for mayor," said the openly gay independent, giving out a business card with a condensed version of his political platform printed on the back.

"Elect a blue-collar mayor," said the card, "who will lead by his actions, not just by talk and promises; build an extraordinary public transit system; build housing that all San Francisco residents can afford; develop a homeless solution that works; serve the needs of working class people; educate our children for 21st century jobs; support a proper municipal utility district."

It was 10:30 a.m. on Friday, February 14, and the riders could not have been happier to have something to read. Some of them, who had been occupying themselves with billboards and the back of heads, were more than eager to engage in conversation.

"Hi, Jim Reid. You're running for mayor," said a woman as she took his card.

"Jim Reid," her toddler daughter cooed from the seat next to her. "Mayor."

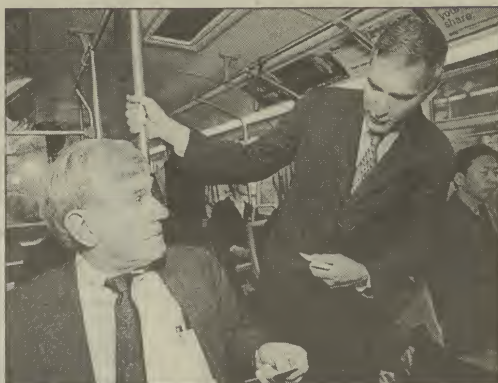
It was the third day of Reid's 200-day bus tour of San Francisco, a strategy he has devised to meet voters, with a goal of introducing himself to 1,000 people a day.

"There are enough voters on Muni to elect the next mayor three times over," Reid told the *Bay Area Reporter*, estimating that about 73,000 votes will determine the winner of the election in November 2003. By Reid's calculations, he will have met 200,000 of these voters by the end of this run, a number he ensures each day by starting with 1,000 business cards, and disembarking for the evening only when the cards are gone.

"Hey aren't you the guy that's trying to be mayor?" asked a teenage girl sitting in the back with her friend. Reid answered affirmatively.

"No shit!" she yelled, offering a complicated handshake that Reid said she'll have to teach him how to do properly. "You gonna legalize marijuana?"

"I voted for it," said Reid, referring to his position on Proposition 215, the medical marijuana initiative that California voters passed in 1996.



Mayoral candidate Jim Reid, right, with Muni passenger Hugo Nahuel on the Geary line.

"Fuck yeah, I'm voting for Jim Reid," said the girl.

Her friend was more skeptical.

"What are you going to do as mayor?" she asked, and Reid said that he'd like to house the homeless, which is a major issue in his campaign. Although he generally makes a distinction between those who want housing and "bums" that choose to live on the street, Reid is serious about the issue, and his infamous 100-square foot "ShelterOne," a tiny but well-equipped house that he built to prove that housing could be small and affordable, is currently being raffled by Reid to help fund his race.

"I have hella family that are homeless," the girl replied. "What about the people that don't have homes but want them?"

The bus neared the City Hall stop, where Reid usually gets off. "That's my home phone number on the card; call me," Reid told the girl as he stepped out the door.

"I want to become a cult figure, someone that people recognize and look forward to seeing," said Reid as he waited for the next bus.

"Hi Jim!" honked a passing driver, already helping to fulfill Reid's desired status.

At the stop, Rachel Gordon, a reporter for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, approached and introduced herself. She wants to follow Reid on his bus rides, she said, but not until he starts to get tired of them. Reid is still in the phase of the journey that he calls "exhilarating."

Reid boarded the 47-Van Ness bus and continued the routine, then got off after a few blocks, hoping to find a less crowded vehicle.

"Mr. Reid..." came a call from a woman on the street behind him. "I have two minutes. Tell me a little bit about what you stand for."

They talked. She nodded, and was pleased when he informed her

that he does not drive a gas-powered car.

"I got a vote out of that one," smiled Reid, proving to himself that this nearly seven-month adventure is more than just a publicity stunt. Not that there's anything wrong with those.

"During the last mayor's race, I knew I didn't have a chance at winning, so I climbed atop of the largest billboard along a freeway exit and held a giant pink slip for Mayor Willie Brown," said Reid. "I had done stunts before, but that one may have hurt me. Now people think I'm a little bit crazy."

In his past attempts at winning public office, Reid has spent several nights in homeless shelters; driven his electric car through the city; and towed his ShelterOne house to display at City Hall, receiving numerous traffic violations in the process. But those weren't stunts, said Reid, those were genuine efforts to practice what he stands for.

On the bus ride back downtown, Reid greeted an Asian man and asked him if he spoke Chinese, hoping to give him one of his translated business cards.

"Leave me alone!" screamed the man, and Reid continued toward the back of the bus. A scowling teenage boy took his card, but wouldn't look him in the eye. Reid met a few other voters, then sat down to rest.

"Hey man," the scowling teenager, now with a neutral face, called out to Reid. "Good luck on your election."

It was time once again to get off and board another bus.

"I actually believe," said Reid, "that I'm going to win." ▼

Daily accounts of Reid's Muni trips, as well as his political platform, can be found at [www.sfmayor.com](http://www.sfmayor.com).

Manly, former president of FTM International, has agreed to form a transgender caucus that will host educational forums and participate in direct actions.

Additionally, said Haaland, the Milk Club hopes to host a community dialogue between members of Gay Shame and Supervisor Gavin Newsom; several Gay Shame demonstrators were allegedly beaten and arrested by police earlier this month in a protest against Newsom during a fundraiser at the LGBT Center.

"While there may be members

of our community who support Gavin Newsom for mayor, they should not look the other way when there is police brutality just because they support Gavin," said a statement from Haaland's recent report.

Come summertime, the club's endorsement process for mayor will begin, and the Milk Club expects to be just as active in the next political race. In the meantime, however, expanding its activities to be more than an endorsement vehicle, according to Haaland, will make the club stronger. ▼

## Milk Club

◀ previous page

crimination policies, such as the call-in registration system, likened America's current treatment of its Arab residents to the profiling of Japanese during World War II.

"Race, ethnicity, and religion are not grounds for suspicion," he said.

But issues also resonate on a local level, said Haaland, and club member Daisy Anarchy has agreed to re-establish the sex workers caucus, while Dion



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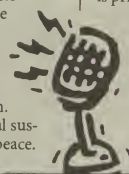
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## Saying no to war

The massive antiwar protests last weekend in hundreds of cities around the world sent a message to the Bush administration. Although on Tuesday the president dismissed demonstrators as if he alone knows what is right. "Size of protest—it's like deciding, well, I'm going to decide policy by focus group," Bush said during a session with reporters at the White House. We have some news for the president: millions of people around the world came together over several days of demonstrations—that's not exactly a "focus group"; that's democracy in action. And it's not just the so-called usual suspects who are leading the calls for peace. In country after country, people of all classes, ages, and ethnicities loudly proclaimed their desire for peace and for



## Editorial

allowing United Nations weapons inspections more time. In San Francisco's huge march last Sunday, parents brought their babies, LGBT groups formed a coalition, and people of color made their voices heard.

Diplomats and politicians in several countries have serious reservations about going to war against Iraq, and they can't be easily dismissed. The U.S. has not made a compelling case for war and Bush's impatience and his stubbornness on the matter are wearing thin. Remember, this is a president who became the chief executive only after the U.S. Supreme Court intervened; he had virtually no foreign policy experience upon becoming president, and now, two years later, he's about to lead us into a war many Americans would just as soon stay out of. That he's willing to buck the U.N. and go it alone is even more cause for alarm.

Secretary of State Colin Powell, once one of the more dovish members of Bush's Cabinet, has morphed into a hawk, but he has presented no real evidence of Iraq's failure to comply with the U.N. resolution, and he has not produced clear evidence that Iraq is linked to al-Qaeda. A briefing from chief

U.N. inspectors last Friday appeared to cast doubt on Powell's claims that Iraq could be removing weapons of mass destruction shortly before the inspectors arrive at a site.

We agree with those against the war that the administration is primarily concerned with: 1) the opportunity for American oil conglomerates to control Iraqi oil fields, and 2) avenging the first President Bush's inability to oust Saddam Hussein during the first Gulf War. Nothing else seems to make sense. While Hussein is hardly a democratic leader

and has perpetuated great violence against his own people, including murder, he has not directly threatened the United States. We disagree with the Bush administration's new foreign policy doctrine of striking preemptively against other countries.

There's probably another reason Bush and top administration officials keep up the war talk—it detracts greatly from problems here at home, especially the economy. Companies continue to announce profit losses or employee layoffs every week, yet that news is buried amid the calls for military force against Iraq—with or without the backing of the United Nations. And there's some evidence to support this: during last fall's midterm election, the White House used the potential war on Iraq to spectacularly detract from the country's economic woes, resulting in Republicans recapturing the Senate, and gaining more seats in the House. The Democrats were caught off balance, and the party never articulated an effective message.

INVASION CHECKLIST  
FOR GEORGE'S  
WAR ON IRAQ

- ✓ missiles
- ✓ tanks
- ✓ troops
- ✓ planes
- ✓ bombs
- ✓ ships
- ✓ guns
- ✓ a reason



A sign at Sunday's antiwar demonstration in San Francisco.

Now, the drumbeat to war is constant—thousands of military troops have been deployed, special forces personnel are on the ground in Iraq, and Bush is more determined than ever to lead us into war.

The voices rising in opposition to the war also have grown steadily. People who frequently criticize U.S. foreign policy are taking the lead in the antiwar effort, but they're hardly alone as they're joined by more people who normally don't concern themselves with world affairs. We must continue to speak out—and if Bush chooses not to listen, there's always the ballot box in two years. ▼

## Working hard for 13th District

by Assemblyman Mark Leno

Let me thank the Bay Area Reporter for allowing me to respond to last week's editorial. I will take this opportunity to share with the community some thoughts about my first two months serving as your representative in the state Capitol.

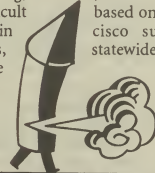
As your editorial indicated, a San Francisco constituent brought to my attention that the Sacramento County Animal Shelter was seriously overcrowded, without heat, killing nearly 12,000 healthy dogs and cats and selling approximately 200 adoptable pets each year to research facilities. Knowing that our San Francisco County shelter has a policy against any euthanasia and that no other county shelter sells animals for research, I agreed to meet my constituent at the shelter for a visit. A number of well-placed county officials greeted me upon arrival. I was given a full tour of the facility and had the chance to discuss best practices with the shelter staff to see if the San Francisco model could be of any use to their program. A constructive dialogue is now in progress.

Understandably, California's budget crisis is the major focus of every legislator at this time. With our deficit pegged somewhere between \$26 billion and \$34 billion, we must all be prepared to see cherished social, health, and education programs trimmed, as well as increases in some taxes and fees. Ignoring the impulse to place blame, it should be known that a single source of the state's revenue, taxes on capital gains and stock options, accounts for nearly one-third to half of the budget shortfall. Until our economy rebounds, we must re-examine the very structure of our state budget, as our problem is chronic and systematic.

Basically, we have two options. We can cut spending and/or raise revenues. Neither

option is a pleasure for policy makers. I have been loudly and consistently advocating that the governor sign a bill passed by the Democrats of both the state Senate and Assembly which would cut over \$8 billion and raise over \$4 billion in new revenue in the next 17 months. This bill represents \$120 million to offset San Francisco's growing budget deficit. Wherever we can find and trim waste in government spending, we will do so. What is much more difficult is considering smaller investments in our schools, MediCal programs, childcare, and senior services as the need for the assistance grows during this prolonged recession.

With five gay and lesbian legislators now in Sacramento, we have formed the nation's first LGBT legislative caucus of which I am the vice chair. Three weeks ago, we



## Guest Opinion

held our first press conference announcing our four-piece legislative package for the coming year. With the support and sponsorship of California Alliance for Pride and Equality, our statewide LGBT lobby, I am the joint co-author of a comprehensive domestic partners bill, an equal benefits bill based on San Francisco's landmark equal benefits ordinance and a foster care bill which will protect queer foster youth. Making good on a campaign promise, I am author of AB196 that will protect transgender citizens from discrimination in housing and employment. We can all be proud of these four important pieces of legislation.

Additionally, the speaker of the Assembly, Herb Wesson, has agreed to my request to form a Select Committee on LGBT Families, which I will chair. In the coming months, I will convene public hearings in San Francisco and throughout the state to highlight exactly how our community is negatively impacted by inequities in exist-

ing state and federal law. We will focus on the plight of binational same-sex couples, LGBT youth, the high rates of tobacco, alcohol and drug abuse in our communities, adoptions, and other challenging issues. Testimony we gather will be used in our ongoing efforts to raise public awareness and to change state law.

I am joint co-author with state Senator John Vasconcellos (D-Santa Clara) of a bill based on legislation I wrote as a San Francisco supervisor which will create a statewide registry for medical marijuana patients and establish a state-sponsored system of the medicine's distribution. In light of the travesty of justice in the Ed Rosenthal medical marijuana case, we

at the state level must do everything within our power to counter John Ashcroft's assault on Proposition 215, California's Compassionate Use Act of 1996.

As just one of a few freshman legislators honored with a committee chairmanship, I will be very busy in the upcoming months considering over 400 bills that will come before the Assembly Public Safety Committee. Additionally, as the Bush administration continues to threaten the world with war in Iraq, I will be a steadfast and vocal opponent, speaking publicly at every opportunity.

It is an amazing opportunity to serve in the Assembly as one of the two first openly gay men in the history of our state. The accompanying responsibility I fully accept and I continue to pledge to you, my constituents, that the job will command my full concentration and efforts. ▼

Mark Leno represents the 13th Assembly District.



## LETTERS

## PETA member takes on Mr. Marcus

As a card-carrying member of PETA [People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals] and a gay man, your diatribe against PETA's anti-leather campaign is nothing short of animal-phobic, let alone illogical ["Leather under attack," *Leather*, February 6]. Just like fur, leather is a product of animal cruelty. Leather, once considered a byproduct of the beef industry, now accounts for more of the profit from slaughtering cows (sometimes while they're still conscious!) than the sale of their flesh. The fact that "leather has been worn for centuries," hardly makes it right. That exact same spurious argument has been used for years by conservatives to justify homophobia, racism, and sexism.

Why would anyone choose to support animal cruelty of any kind? Or want to "identify" with it? No one needs to sacrifice their identity, however. There are great alternatives to leather that are easily available—like latex and pleather—that don't involve hurting an animal.

Get a grip yourself, Mr. Marcus. There's simply no excuse or justification for cruelly treating another—animal and human alike.

Scott Anderson  
San Francisco

## Leno can walk and chew gum

I was dismayed to read such a gratuitous attack on Assemblymember Leno for his principled stand against cruel animal testing ["Leno's fumble," *Editorial*, February 13]. This is an important issue, which speaks volumes about what kind of society we are. Mark Leno is a very energetic legislator. He can fight for San Francisco from extreme budget cuts, draft legislation to protect our environment, help the transgendered, and stop unnecessary cruelty to animals.

Jay Navas  
San Francisco

## Leno's a leader

We read with great disappointment your editorial on Assemblyman Mark Leno. It amazed us that the B.A.R. would be critical of a man who has always put his constituents first, whether it was in his supervisory district, or now his Assembly district. Mark has shown incredible leadership, he works tirelessly for all those he represents.

We know that he is working hard on the current budget, and is trying to help San Francisco save millions of dollars for its budget. As law enforcement officers, Mark has always been there for us, and we know that he works hard on our behalf every single day. We appreciate the fact that Mark took a stand on the animal shelter issue because you see he has a heart, that is why we worked so hard to help him get elected. Mark is a state Assembly member, and should take stands on state issues. Your editorials should focus on our real problems, not on a man who has worked consistently on our issues, and continues to do so. We want to take this opportunity to thank Assemblyman Leno for all he has done, and continues to do. He truly is a leader.

Lea Militello and Scott Hoey, Co-Chairs  
San Francisco Police Officers Pride Alliance

## The shame of Gay Shame's tactics

It is unfortunate that members of the self-described radical group Gay Shame chose violent means to make a political point when they attempted to storm and disrupt a fundraising event that was generously co-hosted by Gavin and Kimberly Newsom to benefit the nonprofit LGBT Community Center in San Francisco ["Gay Shame takes Newsom and the LGBT center to task," *February 13*]. The group has every right to hold a peaceful protest, whatever their reasons. But this, however, went beyond being just a peaceful protest. Members of Gay Shame harassed and intimidated patrons of the center and guests of the event, stormed the building and the event's co-hosts, and allegedly vandalized the center's property. These are not peaceful tactics, and they were unfortunately met with a harsh police response, which itself merits a serious investigation. But as a member of the board of directors of the center and one of the organizers of the event, I think it's most shameful that Gay Shame would want to disrupt an event that raised over \$20,000 for crucial public programs at the center, programs that are available to all members of the LGBT community, including members of Gay Shame.

Jean-Paul Samaha  
San Francisco

## Gay bookstores

In relying too heavily on Richard Labonte and Norman Laurila as sources for her article on gay bookstores, reporter Liz Highleyman failed to mention an early local competitor of theirs ["What is the history of gay bookstores," *Past Out*, February 13]. Charles Gilman operated The Walt Whitman Bookstore first in Oakland, I believe, then definitely in San

Francisco on Sutter Street (near Franklin) and Market Street (near Noe) in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Gilman's efforts preceded the arrival of out-of-town-er A Different Light by some years.

Randy Alfred  
San Francisco

## Haaland settlement

Wow! Tommi Avicoli Mecca sure liked using the word "abuse" in his letter ["Mailstrom," *February 6*] defending Robert Haaland's suit against the police for alleged sexual assault (and the key word here is "alleged").

So, Tommi and Robert, let's talk about "abuse." Robert and his fellow merry pranksters were arrested several years ago on New Year's Day for illegally breaking into a vacant small property on Page Street. Their goal? To steal this property from an unsuspecting, elderly woman and give it to their homeless friends. In so doing they not only cost this woman and her family tens of thousands of dollars in legal bills, but undue stress and emotional turmoil. I don't know about you, Tommi and Robert, but I find damaging someone else's property and taking advantage of the elderly not only abusive, but offensive.

It also appears that suing the city may be a pattern with Robert Haaland. I wonder how many people would consider this an abuse of the system being that Robert also holds a legal degree. Talk about taking advantage of the people's trust and feeding at the public trough. But then, that could also be considered abusive.

Anyway, let's take a good look at Robert's New Year's Day adventure and put this story into perspective. Robert Haaland wanted to steal some unsuspecting elderly woman's property out from under her so that he could give it to his homeless friends. He then gets arrested in the process, carted off to jail, "allegedly" abused, sues the city, and settles for \$107,000. All in the name of supplying housing for those in need.

Okay, so my question to Robert is this: "How much of that \$107,000 are you going to donate to homeless housing programs?" Or do you only feel comfortable "giving" when it's someone else's property and not yours?

Tom Ramm  
San Francisco

## Cop's view of Mary Dunlap

I read the B.A.R.'s article regarding Mary Dunlap, the director of the San Francisco Police Department's Office of Citizen Complaints, who recently passed away ["OCC chief Mary Dunlap dies," *January 23*]. I'm a gay man and a 22-year veteran of the SFPD and I must say that the Mary Dunlap I knew professionally, bore little resemblance to the individual you described.

The justice for which she is said to have so nobly fought in her earlier career was non-existent in her dealings with the fine men and women of the SFPD. Ms. Dunlap appeared determined to find fault with any police officer for any reason whatsoever having little or no regard for the truth. Her apparent philosophy was that the police were guilty until proven otherwise and seldom was there proof enough to change her mind.

Under her guidance, investigators solicited complaints where none existed, creatively tailored their investigations to meet political agendas, and coerced additional complaints from anyone with a gripe regardless of its absurdity. Officers have been unfairly maligned, embarrassed, and harassed by the OCC during her tenure. Observers felt that statistics were being padded with this mindless minutiae at the taxpayers expense. All of this was done with no concern for the human being behind the badge.

Her methods were dubious, unjust, and grossly one-sided.

In short, she exhibited the very mean-spirited characteristics and ethics (or lack of) that she publicly decried in her prior struggles against prejudice and discrimination. And, though I mourn the passing of any one of my gay sisters or brothers, I only wish she had demonstrated a similar compassion for my police sisters and brothers and the feelings of their loved ones as well.

David W. Tussey, Inspector SFPD  
San Francisco

## AHP on 'bug chasers'

Matthew Bajko's lead story, "Media spotlight on 'bug chasers'" [*January 30*] reshapes the recent *Rolling Stone* article ("In Search of Death," *February 6*), and further raises the question of the frequency of this phenomenon. We are writing to put this issue into some perspective.

First, we want to emphasize that there is no scientific evidence for the preposterous conclusion [in *Rolling Stone* article] that 10,000 new HIV infections occur each year in the U.S. as a result of "bug chasing." In fact, to the extent that bug chasing exists, re-

next page ►

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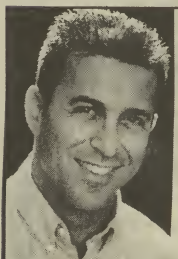
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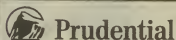
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**Mailstrom**

◀ previous page

search data and clinical experience suggest that it is very rare, dwarfed in significance as a correlate of unprotected sex by the use of party drugs, seeking sex on the Internet, and lack of knowledge about HIV. The scientific literature does offer evidence that some gay men have unprotected sex, but there is currently no evidence in the literature that a sizable proportion of these men are intentionally seeking out infection. We do, however, have research data from our clinic that directly addresses this question.

The UCSF AIDS Health Project is the largest HIV mental health agency in San Francisco and one of the oldest in the country. We provide services to more than 10,000 clients each year, and of these, more than 6,000 receive anonymous and confidential HIV counseling and testing. We also provide HIV psychiatry services at San Francisco General Hospital, and run a large and active outpatient HIV mental health clinic.

During a study at our HIV testing clinics in 1997-1998, we asked a sample (n=124) of gay and bisexual men who had engaged in unprotected anal intercourse in the prior year whether they:

- Wanted to become infected because they want the support that is available to people with HIV (for example, support groups, social services, substance abuse treatment, etc.);
- Wanted to become infected so that they'd feel more a part of the community;
- Felt that most of their friends were infected, and did not want to be left out.

Only one (0.8 percent) of our 124 research subjects endorsed any of these statements as something he "thought or felt strongly;" only one more (0.8 percent) felt any of these "to a moderate degree."

Furthermore, AHP sees thousands of gay men each year who are either living with HIV or trying to remain uninfected. Over the 19 years of our clinical work, clients have mentioned the issue of self-destructive behavior rising to the level of seeking this life-threatening illness only once or twice – once or twice in a city with one of the highest rates of HIV infection in the nation.

Like Doug Hitzel, the young gay man who now regrets both his decision to seek infection and his agreement to participate in the *Rolling Stone* story, we believe it is unfortunate that this phenomenon has been given such a high profile. This is not a matter of HIV prevention organizations feeling the issue doesn't "merit attention," rather it is a concern that such a sensational discussion primarily serves to promote the notion that gay men are reckless, suicidal, and amoral. This kind of characterization reflects on the entire community of gay and bisexual men – the vast majority of whom are none of these things – and takes away from their legitimate struggles to remain uninfected.

Dr. James W. Dilley, Lisa Loeb, MPH,  
Joanna Rinaldi, Dr. Dan Karasic  
UCSF AIDS Health Project

**Gay and loves America**

I'm writing in response to Dale Carpenter's column on the anti-gay left (*"Antiwar madness," Out-Right, January 9*). The piece came at the right time and I wish more people had read it.

I'm a San Francisco resident who's gay, Asian, Christian, and loves America. According to the left-wing gay groups, this is not what I'm supposed to feel. Being gay, I'm not supposed to feel good about America and I must definitely be hostile to traditional Christian beliefs. Being an Asian, these left-wing groups insist that I must cry victim of racism all the time. I must be afraid and suspicious of my Caucasian neighbors, especially those of the hetero variety. Oh, they feel I must be supportive of Palestinians too. To think otherwise is to fall into the trap of right-wing ideology.

How simplistic! I'm fully aware of the founding principles of this country. Being an immigrant, I had the opportunity to learn about the real historical founding of this country.

After 9/11, I agree with Dale that the chasm has widened. I had to take a stand. I will always believe in civil rights but I will not be boxed into this group think and bullied by the thought police of the politically correct left. I can disagree with right-wing Christians but need not be hostile or slander them at every turn. I believe in working with them whenever possible and stand with them for America.

I believe this is a great country, imperfect but still the most generous and is still good at its core. Today, I'm proud to say my apartment window displays the American flag and ooooooh, it says "God Bless America." This is America and I'm grateful for her. She has allowed me the freedom to believe or disbelieve and the freedom to embrace the best of liberalism and the best of good old fashion conservative values.

I hope there are more people out there in the Bay Area who feel the same way – truly "God Bless America ... from sea to shining sea."

Raymond Low  
San Francisco

**Pelosi's AIDS record**

We are writing in response to an op-ed that ran in the January 16 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter* entitled "Where is Nancy Pelosi on Global AIDS?" by Michael Lauro. The op-ed failed to recognize the extensive work Congresswoman Pelosi has done in the fight against HIV/AIDS at the global level.

At this time, when many are praising President Bush's recent proposal to commit \$15 billion over five years to fight AIDS in Africa and the Caribbean, we must remember that this initiative comes after many hard-fought years of pressing this administration, and the previous one, to step up their commitments to global AIDS programs. President Bush's proposal has been the result of many strong advocates on Capitol Hill, and Nancy Pelosi has been a major force in this effort.

Unfortunately, Lauro's op-ed does not reflect the fact that Congresswoman Pelosi has been in the absolute forefront of fighting the pandemic. In the early 1990s, Congresswoman Pelosi was instrumental in convening the first congressional hearing on global AIDS issues. Additionally, Congresswoman Pelosi secured the first money that was set aside to help children affected by AIDS in the developing world.

As ranking Democrat of the subcommittee that funds foreign aid and a member of the subcommittee that funds the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the congresswoman consistently made funding for global AIDS a priority. When Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen first appeared before the Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee in 1993, Congresswoman Pelosi asked when the Clinton administration was going to put global AIDS on the agenda of the G-7, and asked the question again each year until it was added to the agenda.

More recently, the congresswoman offered an amendment on the FY 2002 supplemental spending bill that would have provided \$500 million in emergency global HIV/AIDS funding. Later, Congresswoman Pelosi offered an amendment during subcommittee consideration of the FY 2003 Foreign Operations Appropriations bill that would have added \$400 million for global AIDS treatment and prevention. Both amendments were defeated on party line votes.

The congresswoman has also been a champion of HIV vaccine and microbicide development efforts. In fact, she has authored legislation on that would speed the development of both of these critical prevention technologies, which would have a major impact on reducing the spread of HIV in the developing world.

Congresswoman Pelosi has been a strong advocate for programs to support people living with HIV/AIDS on both the domestic and global fronts. To suggest otherwise is incorrect. We greatly appreciate Congresswoman Pelosi's efforts and support her in her work for HIV/AIDS treatment, care and prevention programs, both at home and abroad.

Eric Goosby, M.D., CEO and Chief Medical Officer  
Pangaea Global AIDS Foundation  
Fred Dillon, Policy and Communications Director  
San Francisco AIDS Foundation

**Newsom's loans**

I was disappointed that Supervisor Gavin Newsom has not been forthcoming about the millions of dollars in loans he has received from wealthy sources. I was further disappointed at Newsom's attempt to blame the city attorney after he initially said he would take responsibility for the omissions he made on the disclosure forms he has filed over the years. I can't imagine the city attorney would dismiss the importance of what could be an end-run around campaign finance and campaign disclosure laws.

What hope do we, who abide by campaign finance laws such as the \$500 limit for the mayor's race, have for the future of good, clean government when someone like the heir to the Getty oil fortune can buy influence by making \$2 million loans to candidates like Newsom? Moreover, how do we know these loans won't be forgiven later? The opportunity for abuse is obvious, since Newsom can spend unlimited amounts of his own money in the campaign, then be bailed out by millions of dollars in "loans" from wealthy benefactors.

It is ironic that, while Newsom was obtaining his secret millions in loans, his opponent for mayor of San Francisco (monetarily self-reliant), Tom Ammi-ano, was working with California Common Cause to draft tough legislation in a ballot initiative to deal with problems associated with so much money in the political trough.

I am tired of corruption – like when the FBI was hauling files away from one of the mayor's departments during the last mayoral election. And how about that first vote on public power, when the Coast Guard found ballot box tops floating in the bay? More recently, one of the members of the Planning Commission was finally caught allegedly taking bribes in order to get projects approved. After eight years of Willie Brown, wouldn't it be nice to have Tom for a change?

John Daniel  
San Francisco



# Iraq war threat presents challenge to Dem prez candidates

by Wayne Friday

While some recent polls indicate that a slight majority of Americans now appear to agree with President Bush in his coming war with Iraq, less than half of the nation's registered Democrats agree, and that presents a dilemma for the Democratic candidates for president in next year's election.

While most of those announced Democratic candidates seem to be supportive of Bush to one degree or another, there are differences in where the candidates stand. Senator **John F. Kerry** (D-Massachusetts) one of the leading Democratic presidential wannabes, warned Bush last month against what he termed a "rush to war" with Iraq, but a couple of weeks later said he supported telling Iraqi President **Saddam Hussein** that he has a "limited time" to disarm or face the likelihood of military action.

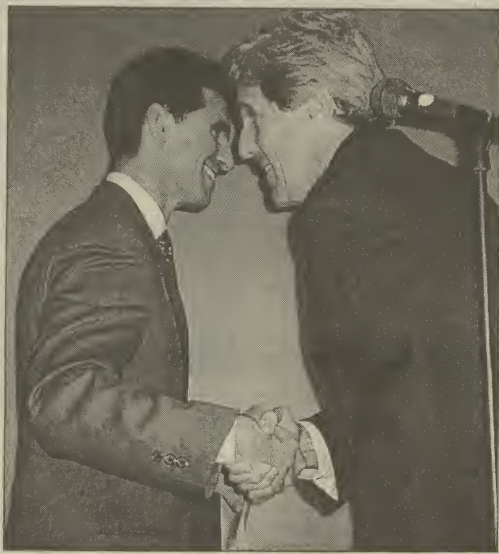
In the past, Kerry has chided the Bush White House for waiting too long to make the case for invasion. Kerry has criticized the president, particularly for what he calls Bush's "blustering unilateralism." So, does Kerry favor going to war with Iraq soon? Not exactly; the Massachusetts Senator says that his quarrel with Bush is not with his insistence on disarming Hussein, but with his growing apparent failure to bring along more countries in the effort.

Kerry, like other Democratic presidential hopefuls, is seeking to strike a balance between holding Iraq accountable and forcing Hussein to disarm, while challenging Bush on foreign policy, a dilemma that dogs most of those Democrats who want to be the next president.

Connecticut Senator **Joseph Lieberman** and Missouri Representative **Richard Gephardt**, both of whom are announced Democratic presidential candidates, seem to be Bush's most consistent supporters on Iraq. Lieberman, considered a hawk on Iraq, has been calling for the ouster of Hussein since 1991, and said recently that "America must be prepared to act alone if necessary" to protect its people, though Lieberman said he feels it's unlikely that we will ever have to go it alone. Lieberman and Gephardt were at Bush's side last fall when the president signed the resolution authorizing him to go to war, and both have been criticized by other Democratic leaders for helping Bush get that resolution passed last October.

Senator **John Edwards** (D-North Carolina) says if Hussein "doesn't do something to disarm immediately," the U.S. has no choice but to use military force to disarm him, adding that we should "go forward with those allies who do support us" whether or not the United Nations is fully on board.

Former Vermont Governor



Assemblyman Mark Leno, left, greets Massachusetts Senator John Kerry.

**Howard Dean**, another Democratic presidential hopeful, says he would have voted against last year's resolution had he been in Congress and wants another U.N. deadline for Saddam to disarm.

Longtime controversial civil rights activist the Reverend **Al Sharpton** of New York calls himself "totally antiwar."

The antiwar sentiment of many Democrats will be a particular factor in early primary states like Iowa and New Hampshire. Democratic presidential candidates are

facing a complex political challenge in how to reconcile their views with a still-popular Republican president and figure out how to win the nomination in a primary process dominated by liberals, while still appealing to enough political moderates to then win the general election.

In short, no one running for president wants to be against what could turn out to be a successful war, but none of them can ignore the very voters who pick the party's next nominee. Indeed, maneuvering through this political terrain poses challenges for all of the Democratic presidential candidates. As the *Washington Post* said recently: "The doves run the risk of having opposed what could eventually turn out to be a successful, even popular, war that could undermine their ability to gain the public's confidence on national security issues; those who have been Bush's strongest supporters risk the anger of party activists in the nomination fight, and those who are more in the middle risk criticism that they lack consistency."

The Democratic presidential candidates are indeed wrestling with the current Bush policy on Iraq, but they would do well to remember that the first Bush president — **George H.W. Bush** — was

instantly a very popular president after having fought the Persian Gulf War, with approval ratings reaching 90 percent, only to lose to a near-unknown Arkansas governor a year later who was able to neutralize doubts about the country's defense after that war. And where is it even suggested that in order to defeat Bush in 2004 the Democrats have to put forth an antiwar nominee? After all, there's still the Bush economy. What **George W. Bush** and the Republican-controlled Congress has managed to do in three short years to the bountiful economy that was handed to them by the Clinton administration is reason enough to send him back to Texas.

John Kerry, John Edwards, Joe Lieberman, Florida Senator **Bob Graham**, Dick Gephardt — any of them would be a better bet for the White House than another four years of plunging stock markets and rising unemployment rates. Hell, even Al Sharpton knows that again, in the 2004 election, "It's the (Bush) economy, stupid!"

## Politics and people

Ambassador **James Hormel**, **Tim Wu**, Assemblymembers **Mark Leno** (D-San Francisco) and **Christine Kehoe** (D-San Diego), **Phyllis Lyon**, **Del Martin**, **David Mixner**, and *Bay Area Reporter* publisher **Bob Ross** are the honorary event chairs of a fundraiser/reception for mayoral candidate **Susan Leal** to be held at the home of **Jeff Anderson** and **Jeff Soukup** on February 26, 6-8 p.m. (\$250; 415-777-1877 for tix and info).

The city's Elections Commission recommendation that paid ballot arguments in the Voters Handbook should be a thing of the past is a smart thing — reducing the cost from \$500,000 to around \$2,000 — since no one bothers to read them anyway.

And how about Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge **William Danser**, writing a letter on his judicial stationery ordering

next page ►

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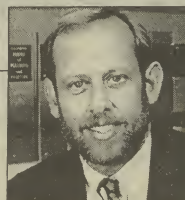


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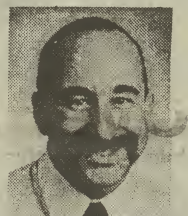
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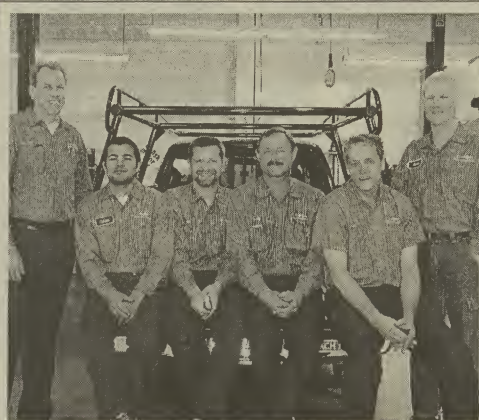


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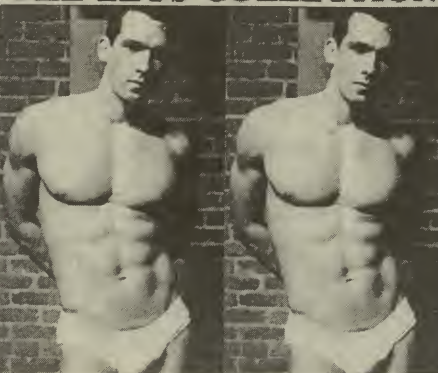
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## Trans life during wartime

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

I'm going to break one of my own writing taboos — right this very minute — and talk about the antiwar movement. The problem is, there is little on my mind lately other than this possible war. It seems that this issue has simply become far too large to just pretend nothing is going on.

While I am stridently antiwar, I've opted to avoid the subject in this column. This is, after all, a column about transgender issues, ideas, and interests. Trying to cobble on a message about war just seems, well, cheap. A cop-out.

But I would like to give you an idea of what these transgendered eyes are seeing out there, and what all this talk of war sounds like to me.

Let me back up a bit. Eighteen months ago, our nation was attacked, and — for better or worse — our nation responded. Tough talk paved the way for a war in Afghanistan with an attempt to "bring to justice" the man believed to be responsible for that attack. At the same time, security was tightened around the country, in an attempt to better protect us from future attacks. Meanwhile, the population dusted off flags and hung them from every nook and cranny, just like we did during Desert Storm a little over a decade ago.

It was the first time I became genuinely worried.

Friends of mine begin to talk about being searched at airports, and many transgendered people expressed concerns about traveling in their preferred genders. I suspect the presence of individuals in camouflage uniforms toting weapons did little to make a transgendered person feel 100 percent confident in an airport.

I saw more than a few examples of patriotism gone awry. Middle-Easterners — or just folks who "looked" Middle-Eastern — were being verbally and physically attacked, in retaliation for what happened on September 11. On my first trip back into the city after the attacks, I listened to a local carry on, evoking Vietnam-era slogans like "if you don't like it here, then leave" to no one in particular.

I even received a note from a friend, letting me know that they'd been officially "questioned" by our government. I don't know if they were yanking my chain or what, but it did little to make me feel comfortable.

After all, those of us who are considered "gender outlaws" (to borrow a term) are obviously dangerous types. If we'll tinker with the sacred nature of gender, then there is no telling what other unspeakable acts we may be capable of. Let alone those of us who are out and actively fighting for transgender rights.

Just as things seemed to settle down — the fighting in Afghanistan had all but faded from the television news, and it had begun to feel "safe" — the talk of war kicked up yet again. This time we would be moving our "war on terror" to Iraq, and toppling Saddam Hussein.

I've talked many times before about antitransgender murder. It struck me how similar some of the defenses that come up in this were playing across the international



Christine Smith

stage.

All the talk of bombing countries "back to the stone age" strikes me as how similar it is to the nature of overkill in the murders I have studied. One doesn't just defeat a foe today, you need to obliterate them — whether it is the "shock and awe" tactic intended for an Iraq invasion, or the extreme deaths faced by some transgendered people.

At the heart of it all — or close to it, at least — is fear. We are being told to fear the potential of weapons of mass destruction hiding on the landscape of Iraq. This is much the same fear in so many antitransgendered murders. Transgendered people, too, are murdered in part because of what their killers fear they are hiding.

Is this a conflation of two divergent concepts, or is there a comparison? Further, if there is a comparison to be had, then are both reasons for killing equal?

I'm not going to say that Saddam is anything short of a megalomaniac, and a dangerous one. Don't get me wrong on that point; I don't want you to think I see a power-mad dictator in the same light as a dead transperson — but I do see comparisons in the fear that are driving the hands of those in power.

It is a comparison that scares me. In attacking another country

based on our fears, do we end up validating those who would kill another because they fear what they see?

At one of the earlier antiwar protests in the city, there was a protester holding a sign — and I am only half remembering this — that said something along the lines of "Wiccan transsexual vegan for peace."

Of course, of all the signs that were there that day, and all the things that were equally worthy of being mentioned, it was this sign that hit the papers. I'm sure that many felt that this lone transgendered woman with a sign was the perfect image for an antiwar protest. The fringe of the fringe, as it were.

I'll admit it, I cringed a bit when I saw that shot, realizing that if those who wanted to paint the antiwar message as one of crackpots would take such an image and run with it. Maybe that has kept me quiet on this issue as well. I'll be quiet no longer, for if one wants to fight against violence of one type, one does need to fight against violence of other types.

No more fear, no more hate, and no more war. ▼

Gwen Smith is rapidly running out of personal taboos to violate. She can be found on the Web in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo," and at [www.gwensmith.com](http://www.gwensmith.com).

## Our Man Friday

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the Los Gatos police to dismiss outstanding parking tickets issued on his family car (duh....); in another case, the same judge is accused of pulling strings to hear a drunken driving case and then giving a light sentence as a favor to a friend.

The Santa Cruz City Council last week voted unanimously to make it the second city in the state to endorse a new state bill that would "extend the rights and duties of marriage" to gays and lesbians.

San Francisco was the first city to endorse AB205 even before it was introduced recently by Assemblywoman Jackie Goldberg (D-Los Angeles). Santa Cruz Council member Tim Fitzmaurice introduced the council resolution, noting that a gay uncle of his is in a 30-year relationship. "It's appalling that (his) relationship could never be a civil union," Fitzmaurice told his fellow council members.

In Massachusetts, Boston College, a Roman Catholic institution that for 30 years has refused to recognize a campus gay and lesbian group, recently gave its stamp

next page ▶



## COMMENTARY

# Gay Shame in SF

by Dale Carpenter

What happens when you mix radical politics with Gestapo tactics? Recently, we got an answer to that question when a left-wing group – appropriately calling itself “Gay Shame” – stormed San Francisco’s LGBT Community Center. The outburst was a crude form of a common complaint on the gay left against the “mainstreaming” of gay life.

The occasion was a fundraiser for the community center, which opened just last year and badly needs more money. It was hosted by city Supervisor Gavin Newsom (a political moderate by San Francisco standards), his wife, and Arts Commission President Stanlee Gatti.

Two hours before Newsom arrived, several dozen Gay Shame protesters showed up outside the center. For reasons I’ll explain in a moment, the group’s organizers don’t like Newsom or the kind of gay people who might support him politically.

When Newsom and his wife arrived, the protesters closed in on the two, shouting in their faces. This behavior continued until the Newsoms reached the center’s front door, where several protesters broke through a police line protecting the building and attempted to pry open the doors.

Meanwhile, at the back door to the community center, protesters hit and pushed community center patrons trying to enter. Other visitors, hoping to attend meetings and community events taking place at the same time, were too afraid to approach the building.

Happily, the police managed to thwart the mob, arresting four rioters before serious violence could erupt. (San Francisco being San Francisco, felony and misdemeanor charges against the four have since been dropped.) A community center staff member was slightly injured in the fracas.

Challenged to defend his group’s attack on the center, its supporters, and community members, a spokesman for Gay Shame calling himself “Mary Treadwell” blamed Newsom for provoking the melee by daring to come through the front door!

Why all the fuss? It seems Gay Shame’s members have a specific complaint against Newsom and a more general one against lots of

gay people.

Newsom, who’s running for mayor this year along with a couple of openly gay candidates, sponsored a voter-approved initiative to cut (not eliminate) direct cash payments by the city to homeless people.

Now, San Francisco has one of the worst homelessness problems in the country. Panhandlers in the city are among the most aggressive and threatening anywhere. Homeowners and shopkeepers regularly encounter urine and feces on their front stoops.

Yet the city subsidizes homelessness through these unusual cash payments, which fund more drug and alcohol abuse at taxpayers’ expense. To self-appointed “advocates” for the homeless, Newsom’s sensible initiative was “anti-homeless.”

But this specific silliness aside, Gay Shame’s more general grievance against gay people challenges the very progress that has improved gay life over the past four decades.

Gay Shame opposes “mainstreaming.” This includes, according to *San Francisco Chronicle* columnist Dave Ford defending the group’s antics, “the corporatization of gay culture” and “limitless consumerism.” Gay Shame itself criticized Newsom for “blatant pandering to the powerful gay vote.”

In other words, Gay Shame and its ilk decry the advances gays have made in economic, social, and political terms over the past few decades. In their vision of gay life it is always 1969, when Stonewall bar patrons threw quarters at police and chanted clever slogans in the streets. Gay people, in this view, are somehow corrupted by their own gains and must recapture the revolutionary spirit of their radical forebears.

This is misleading as a matter of history, exaggerating the role of political radicals in the early gay civil rights movement.

But there is something even more deeply disturbing about Gay Shame’s world view and tactics.

Criticizing a politician for “pandering to the powerful gay vote” is a sentiment that might have frothed from the mouth of a Pat Robertson or a Jerry Falwell.

No wonder openly gay Supervisor Bevan Dufty, who attended the fundraiser and observed the protest, told the *San Francisco Ex-*

aminer the actions of Gay Shame reminded him of notorious anti-gay protesters. “It really seemed to me like I was in a parallel universe and I was watching a Fred Phelps demonstration,” Dufty said.

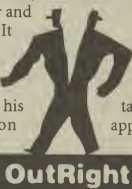
The anti-mainstreaming impulse of Gay Shame and similar “queer” groups and writers is, it must be said, a form of internalized homophobia. It is an impulse that says gays should not have a place beside other Americans in the political and social landscape. It resents gay progress because that progress means gays are losing their outsider status. It says, at bottom, we should not be happy. We should always be victims.

In this light, Gay Shame’s organizational name has a telling double significance. The group’s members should be ashamed for attacking a fledgling gay community center, of course, but they are not. They feel shame only for being gay in an age when homosexuality is increasingly accepted as a normal variation of human sexuality.

In somewhat more refined form and high-falutin’ jargon, this same embarrassment at the increasing acceptance of gay people is being voiced in academic journals and queer-theory books criticizing “assimilation.” Wistfulness for an era of repression captivates these people.

That is truly a gay shame. ▼

Dale Carpenter is a law professor. He can be reached at [OutRight@aol.com](mailto:OutRight@aol.com).



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## Our Man Friday

◀ previous page

of approval to a gay-straight alliance. The Jesuit college has refused to endorse its established group for gay and bisexual students, saying it conflicts with Catholic teachings. The new alliance will be a support group that emphasizes Jesuit ideals and morals and avoids advocating policy changes, officials said.

Speaking of Catholics – transsexuals suffer from “mental pathologies,” and are ineligible for admission to Roman Catholic religious orders and should be expelled if they have already entered the priesthood or religious life, the Vatican said in a recent new directive. The Vatican’s orthodoxy watchdog, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, sent the directive to the superiors of religious orders worldwide, telling the leaders to implement them or

turn cases over to the congregation for handling, Vatican officials said last week.

One of the finest and most respected public affairs and campaign consulting firms in the state, Barnes Mosher Whitehurst Lauter & Partners, has announced that former California Assistant Secretary of State Beth Miller has joined the firm as its new executive vice president for public affairs.

Belated congratulations to one of my favorite Republicans (admittedly, I don’t claim a lot of them), longtime gay civil rights activist Chris Bowman, for having been recently honored during the 25th anniversary of the national Log Cabin Clubs, the nation’s first and largest gay Republican group; our cause could use a lot more good guys like Bowman.

And how was your week? ▼

Got a political tip? E-mail [WayneFridaySF@aol.com](mailto:WayneFridaySF@aol.com).



## Imperial Court voting



Photo: Ken Goh

**D**on Ho casts his vote for the 30th Empress and the 31st Emperor during weekend voting at the ARC Center. Candidates Michael Parsons and Fred Townson are running for Emperor, while Anjelica Devarox and Snatch are running for Empress. The coronation is this Saturday, February 22 at the Giftcenter. The ceremony starts at 6 p.m.

## Place settings

by Jane Warner

**F**ronting Walgreens, 498 Castro February 12, 12:37 p.m.: A man who threatened clerks with a knife in several different stores in the Castro weeks ago was spotted walking in the neighborhood. Managers from Injeanious and Rolo clothing stores recognized the suspect as he walked down Castro Street, and they called 911. Two officers having coffee inside of Orphan Andy's at the time heard the call and ran out of the restaurant in pursuit. Several people pointed to the assailant who was quickly walking southbound on Castro, and after a brief chase, officers caught him in front of Walgreens. When the suspect turned to face the officers, he was defiantly holding a fork in his hand. Officers quickly wrestled the utensil out of his grasp and placed him in handcuffs without further incident. The 56-year-old man was taken to Mission Station and booked for four counts of criminal threats and four counts of brandishing a weapon.

Invite only

Unit block of Prosper, February

9, 6:40 a.m.: A man awoke to the sound of someone breaking through his front door. When he went to investigate, he saw his ex-partner standing in the living room. "I need a place to stay," the suspect demanded and sat down in a chair. The resident, who had obtained a restraining order

against his ex for past acts of alleged violence,

feared for his life and begged him to leave.

After about 15 minutes, the intruder left and was last seen walking northbound on Prosper Street. Responding officers found the suspect sitting on the

pavement behind a parked Volkswagen. When officers told him he was under arrest for violating his restraining order, the suspect denied the allegation, saying, "I haven't seen him in over two weeks." The 51-year-old ex-beau was taken to Mission Station and booked for burglary, criminal threats, and violating a stay-away order.

Off guard

Dore Alley at Folsom, February 9, 1 a.m.: A man walking early in the morning on Dore Alley near Folsom heard footsteps quickly coming up behind him. When he

turned to see who was there, he saw a man holding a black semi-automatic handgun. "Give me your wallet," demanded the suspect. Fearing for his life, the man complied and handed over his black Levi's wallet containing \$10, two credit cards, and a paycheck stub. After taking the wallet, the suspect told the victim to walk back up the alley. Described as Hispanic, 25 years old, 5 feet 8 inches and 145 pounds, wearing a tan jacket and dark pants, the suspect fled on foot northbound on Folsom.

Simple minds

Safeway, 2020 Market, February 7, 2 a.m.: Two men walking out of Safeway with a 12-pack of beer suddenly were approached by three teenagers, one of whom asked, "Where are you going with my beer?" The men kept walking, but the three teens ran after them, punching and kicking the men until they fell to the ground. The three suspects—described as 18-19 years old, of unknown race, and wearing dark clothing, took the beer and fled eastbound on Market Street. ▼

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 559-9955.

# City Clinic reports rise in rectal gonorrhea

by Matthew S. Bajko

**A**lthough the city's rising syphilis rates have garnered much attention over the last year, health officials are also increasingly concerned with rising rates of rectal gonorrhea in gay and bisexual men. The trend is especially troubling since men who have rectal gonorrhea are at a greater risk of contracting HIV.

"A negative person with rectal gonorrhea may be up to nine times more likely to acquire HIV," said Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, the city's director of sexually transmitted disease prevention, because the

infection breaks down the rectum's protective layering.

Continuing a trend since 1995, San Francisco saw an increase in the rate of rectal gonorrhea in gay and bisexual men last year. According to the city's monthly STD report for December of last year, health officials reported 308 cases of rectal gonorrhea in 2002 compared to 237 cases documented in 2001.

"It is a lot more easily transmitted than syphilis or HIV. It is a lot more common to get repeat infections," said Klausner.

Gonorrhea is caused by a type of bacteria and is passed from one person to another during anal and oral sex. If gonorrhea infects the rectum,

there may be white discharge on stools, pain, spasm, and rectal itching. As in throat infections, there may be no symptoms at all.

While gonorrhea can be treated with antibiotics, penicillin-resistant cases of gonorrhea are common, and other antibiotics are used to treat most patients with gonococcal infections. All sexual partners of a person with gonorrhea should be tested and treated if infected, even if they don't have symptoms of infection.

By using male condoms correctly and consistently during sexual activity, sexually active men can reduce their risk of gonorrhea and its complications. Also, people with only one sexual partner have less risk of infection than those who have many partners.

Officials at the municipal STD clinic, City Clinic, recently looked at behavioral risk factors associated with rectal gonorrhea in gay men. Out of 564 men screened during 2000, 7.1 percent had rectal gonorrhea.

The survey found that HIV-positive men were significantly more likely to have rectal gonorrhea than HIV-negative or men of unknown serostatus. Those at highest risk of contracting the infection were HIV-positive men engaging in anonymous sex, particularly with partners met at

bathhouses and over the Internet.

In contrast, Klausner said the survey found that among the HIV-negative men, the strongest risk factor for contracting rectal gonorrhea was drug use during anal sex, especially non-injection drug use.

Klausner said the survey results bolster the need for prevention messages that are targeted specifically at HIV-positive men.

"At the community level, prevention for positives needs to continue and needs to expand. There needs to be more resources," he said. "I think prevention for positives can be effective."

To combat the rates of rectal gonorrhea among gay men, Klausner said the STD unit is reviewing the benefits of providing self-administered rectal swabs so gay men can test themselves or be tested outside of clinical settings. Health officials could test men outside club venues or at Magnet, the gay men's health center set to open in the Castro this May.

"This is all consistent with our efforts to give individuals greater capacity and control over their sexual health, to get themselves tested more easily, and not be so dependent on traditional medical care systems," said Klausner.

Such testing could also benefit gay and bisexual men who either are not out to their doctors or do

not have access to medical care.

"Some providers are uncomfortable collecting the tests and some patients are not willing to comment openly about their sexual risk behaviors with their providers," said Klausner.

Health officials also saw a spike in male pharyngeal gonorrhea, or an infection in the throat. In 2002 the city saw 441 cases compared to 293 in 2001. While only a small percentage of people with gonorrhea have only a throat infection, it is estimated 10 to 25 percent of homosexual men with gonorrhea also have pharyngeal infections.

The city also saw a rise in gonorrhea infections, either penile or vaginal. Last year the city recorded 2,148 cases compared to 2,061 in 2001. In addition, rates of chlamydia also rose last year, with 3,372 cases in 2002 compared to 3,056 in 2001.

"From a resource perspective, it is very difficult for the STD program to maintain high levels of awareness and programmatic focus on syphilis and rectal gonorrhea and chlamydia. We end up moving from epidemic to epidemic," said Klausner. "Ideally, we would like a consistent and comprehensive approach to tackle all these issues at the same time. The reality of our resource constraints is that is not possible." ▼

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## Benefit for Project Inform Monday

by Cynthia Laird

**H**enrik Rasmussen and Joseph Roland, owners of San Francisco's Elevation Salon and Cafe, are throwing open the doors of their establishment Monday, February 24 and will host a benefit for Project Inform, an AIDS treatment information

and advocacy agency.

Project Inform operates the much-used AIDS treatment information hotline, and publishes materials on HIV/AIDS developments.

"Hair Cares" will feature a special performance by Chantal, described as a "hysterically funny comic," as well as hors d'oeuvres by Chaya Brasserie, drinks by Pearl Vodka, and great gift bags,

according to organizers.

Space is limited, so interested people should RSVP to Robby Robinson at (650) 342-5566 as soon as possible. The benefit takes place at Elevation, 451 Bush Street, between Grant and Kearny, from 6-8 p.m. A \$25 per person donation is requested.

For more information on Project Inform, visit [www.projinf.org](http://www.projinf.org). ▼



# If you or someone you love has tested HIV+... ...a big PLUS is coming up!



photo: A. Armendáriz



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photo: D. Weide

## PLUS seminar

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*Former PLUS Participant*

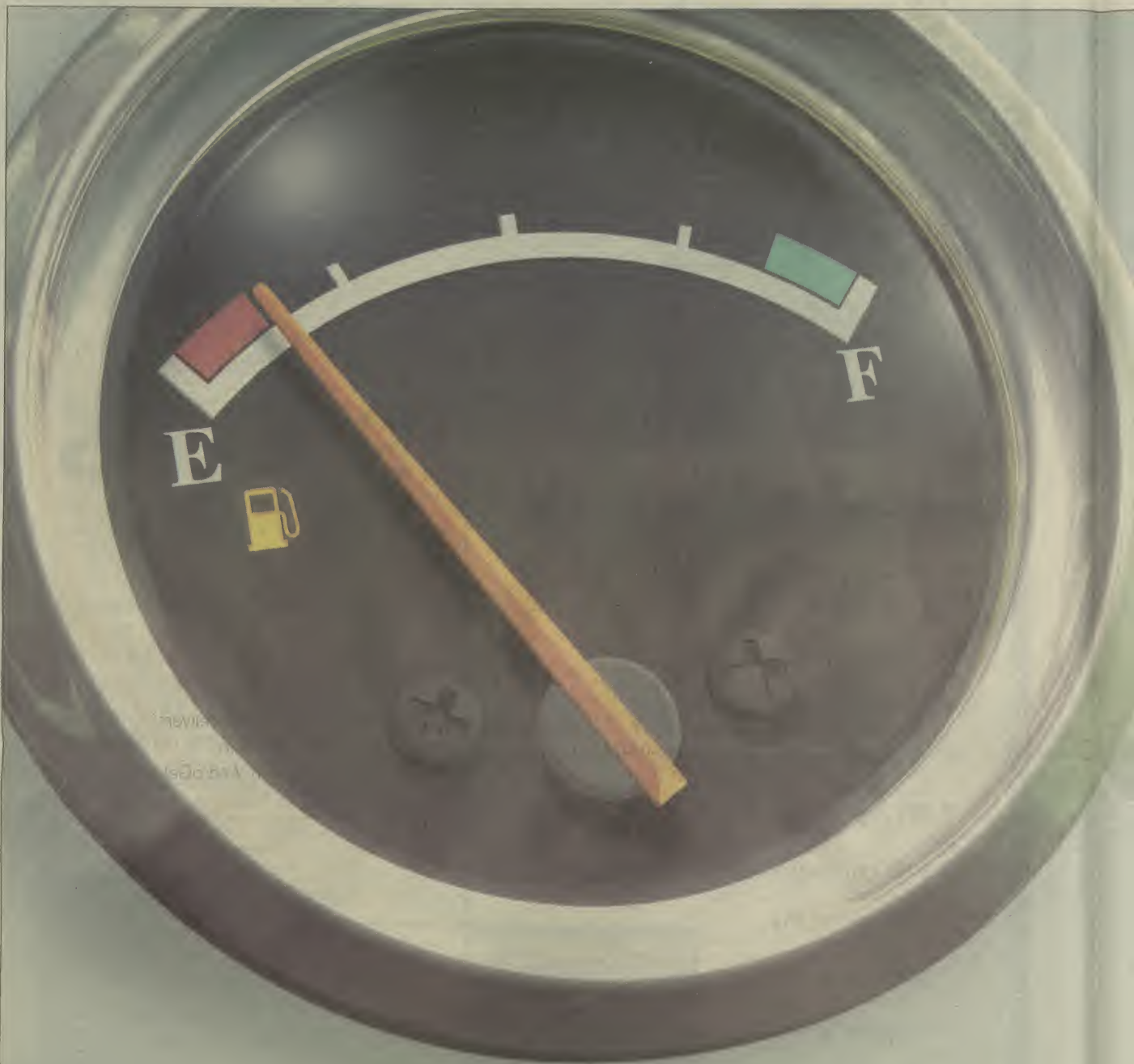
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PLUS is presented by Positive Force, a diverse community of HIV+ men who support one another through exciting social, and thought-provoking educational events.  
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**Safety Information:** Adverse events possibly, probably or definitely related to use of AndroGel® in the controlled trial (n=154) across all dose levels reported in at least 2% of patients included lab test abnormal 5.8%, acne 5.2%, application site reaction 5.2%, prostate disorder 4.5%, headache 2.6%, and hypertension 2.6%.

• Adverse events possibly, probably or definitely related to use of AndroGel in a 1-year follow up (n=106) across all dose levels reported in at least 2% of patients included application site reaction 9.4%, prostate disorder 8.5%, acne 5.7%, and lab test abnormal 4.7%.

• Androgens are contraindicated in men with carcinoma of the breast, or known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate. Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic carcinoma.

• To minimize the potential transfer of testosterone to another person, patients should wash their hands immediately with soap and water after application of AndroGel. They should cover the application site(s) with clothing after the gel has dried.

Please see brief summary of prescribing information.

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1. Dobs AS. Androgen therapy in AIDS wasting. *Baillière's Clin Endocrinol Metab* 1998;12:379-390.

2. Grinspoon S, Corcoran C, Askari H, et al. Effects of androgen administration in men with the AIDS wasting syndrome: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. *Ann Intern Med* 1998;129:18-26.

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### INDICATIONS AND USAGE

AndroGel® is indicated for replacement therapy in males for conditions associated with a deficiency or absence of endogenous testosterone:

1. Primary hypogonadism (congenital or acquired)—testicular failure due to cryptorchidism, bilateral torsion, orchitis, vanishing testis syndrome, orchiectomy, Klinefelter's syndrome, chemotherapy, or toxic damage from alcohol or heavy metals. These men usually have low serum testosterone levels and gonadotropins (FSH, LH) above the normal range.
2. Hypogonadotropic hypogonadism (congenital or acquired)—idiopathic gonadotropin or luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH) deficiency or pituitary-hypothalamic injury from tumors, trauma, or radiation. These men have low testosterone serum levels but have gonadotropins in the normal or low range.

AndroGel® has not been clinically evaluated in males under 18 years of age.

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

Androgens are contraindicated in men with carcinoma of the breast or known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate.

AndroGel® is not indicated for use in women, has not been evaluated in women, and must not be used in women.

Pregnant women should avoid skin contact with AndroGel® application sites in men. Testosterone may cause fetal harm. In the event that unwashed or unclothed skin to which AndroGel® has been applied does come in direct contact with the skin of a pregnant woman, the general area of contact on the woman should be washed with soap and water as soon as possible. *In vitro* studies show that residual testosterone is removed from the skin surface by washing with soap and water.

AndroGel® should not be used in patients with known hypersensitivity to any of its ingredients, including testosterone USP that is chemically synthesized from soy.

### WARNINGS

1. Prolonged use of high doses of orally active 17-alpha-alkyl androgens (e.g., methyltestosterone) has been associated with serious hepatic adverse effects (peliosis hepatis, hepatic neoplasms, cholestatic hepatitis, and jaundice). Peliosis hepatis can be a life-threatening or fatal complication. Long-term therapy with testosterone enanthate, which elevates blood levels for prolonged periods, has produced multiple hepatic adenomas. Testosterone is not known to produce these adverse effects.
2. Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic carcinoma.
3. Geriatric patients and other patients with clinical or demographic characteristics that are recognized to be associated with an increased risk of prostate cancer should be evaluated for the presence of prostate cancer prior to initiation of testosterone replacement therapy. In men receiving testosterone replacement therapy, surveillance for prostate cancer should be consistent with current practices for eugonadal men (see PRECAUTIONS: Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility and Laboratory Tests).
4. Edema with or without congestive heart failure may be a serious complication in patients with preexisting cardiac, renal, or hepatic disease. In addition to discontinuation of the drug, diuretic therapy may be required.
5. Gynecomastia frequently develops and occasionally persists in patients being treated for hypogonadism.
6. The treatment of hypogonadal men with testosterone esters may potentiate sleep apnea in some patients, especially those with risk factors such as obesity or chronic lung diseases.

### PRECAUTIONS

Transfer of testosterone to another person can occur when vigorous skin-to-skin contact is made with the application site (see Clinical Studies). The following precautions are recommended to minimize potential transfer of testosterone from AndroGel®-treated skin to another person:

- Patients should wash their hands immediately with soap and water after application of AndroGel®.
- Patients should cover the application site(s) with clothing after the gel has dried (e.g., a shirt).
- In the event that unwashed or unclothed skin to which AndroGel® has been applied does come in direct contact with the skin of another person, the general area of contact on the other person should be washed with soap and water as soon as possible. *In vitro* studies show that residual testosterone is removed from the skin surface by washing with soap and water.

Changes in body hair distribution, significant increase in acne, or other signs of virilization of the female partner should be brought to the attention of a physician.

### General

- The physician should instruct patients to report any of the following:
- Too frequent or persistent erections of the penis.
  - Any nausea, vomiting, changes in skin color, or ankle swelling.
  - Breathing disturbances, including those associated with sleep.

### Information for Patients

Advise patients to carefully read the information brochure that accompanies each carton of 30 AndroGel® single-use packets.

### Advise patients of the following:

- AndroGel® should not be applied to the scrotum.
- AndroGel® should be applied once daily to clean, dry skin.
- After application of AndroGel® it is currently unknown for how long showering or swimming should be delayed. For optimal absorption of testosterone, it appears reasonable to wait at least 5-6 hours after application prior to showering or swimming. Nevertheless, showering or swimming after just 1 hour should have a minimal effect on the amount of AndroGel® absorbed if done very infrequently.

### Laboratory Tests

1. Hemoglobin and hematocrit levels should be checked periodically (to detect polycythemia) in patients on long-term androgen therapy.
2. Liver function, prostatic specific antigen, cholesterol, and high-density lipoprotein should be checked periodically.
3. To ensure proper dosing, serum testosterone concentrations should be measured (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

### Drug Interactions

Oxyphenbutazone: Concurrent administration of oxyphenbutazone and androgens may result in elevated serum levels of oxyphenbutazone.

Insulin: In diabetic patients, the metabolic effects of androgens may decrease blood glucose and, therefore, insulin requirements.

Propranolol: In a published pharmacokinetic study of an injectable testosterone product, administration of testosterone cypionate led to an increased clearance of propranolol in the majority of men tested.

Corticosteroids: The concurrent administration of testosterone with ACTH or corticosteroids may enhance edema formation; thus, these drugs should be administered cautiously, particularly in patients with cardiac or hepatic disease.

### Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions

Androgens may decrease levels of thyroxine-binding globulin, resulting in decreased total T4 serum levels and increased resin uptake of T3 and T4. Free thyroid hormone levels remain unchanged, however, and there is no clinical evidence of thyroid dysfunction.

### Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Animal Data: Testosterone has been tested by subcutaneous injection and implantation in mice and rats. In mice, the implant induced cervical-uterine tumors, which metastasized in some cases. There is suggestive evidence that injection of testosterone into some strains of female mice increases their susceptibility to hepatoma. Testosterone is also known to increase the number of tumors and decrease the degree of differentiation of chemically induced carcinomas of the liver in rats.

Human Data: There are rare reports of hepatocellular carcinoma in patients receiving long-term oral therapy with androgens in high doses. Withdrawal of the drugs did not lead to regression of the tumors in all cases.

Geriatric patients treated with androgens may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hyperplasia and prostatic carcinoma.

Geriatric patients and other patients with clinical or demographic characteristics that are recognized to be associated with an increased risk of prostate cancer should be evaluated for the presence of prostate cancer prior to initiation of testosterone replacement therapy.

In men receiving testosterone replacement therapy, surveillance for prostate cancer should be consistent with current practices for eugonadal men.

Pregnancy Category X (see Contraindications)—Teratogenic Effects: AndroGel® is not indicated for women and must not be used in women.

Nursing Mothers: AndroGel® is not indicated for women and must not be used in women.

Pediatric Use: Safety and efficacy of AndroGel® in pediatric patients have not been established.

### ADVERSE REACTIONS

In a controlled clinical study, 154 patients were treated with AndroGel® for up to 6 months. Adverse events possibly, probably or definitely related to the use of AndroGel® and reported by ≥1% of the patients are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Adverse Events Possibly, Probably or Definitely Related to Use of AndroGel® in the Controlled Clinical Trial

Adverse Event	5 g	7.5 g	10 g
Acne	1%	3%	8%
Alopecia	1%	0%	1%
Application Site Reaction	5%	3%	4%
Asthenia	0%	3%	1%
Depression	1%	0%	1%
Emotional Lability	0%	3%	3%
Gynecomastia	1%	0%	3%
Headache	4%	3%	0%
Hypertension	3%	0%	3%
Lab Test Abnormal*	6%	5%	3%
Libido Decreased	0%	3%	1%
Nervousness	0%	3%	1%
Pain Breast	1%	3%	1%
Prostate Disorder**	3%	3%	5%
Testis Disorder	3%	0%	0%

\*Lab test abnormal occurred in nine patients with one or more of the following events: elevated hemoglobin or hematocrit, hyperlipidemia, elevated triglycerides, hypokalemia, decreased HDL, elevated glucose, elevated creatinine, or elevated total bilirubin.

\*\*Prostate disorders included five patients with enlarged prostate, one patient with BPH, and one patient with elevated PSA results.

The following adverse events possibly related to the use of AndroGel® occurred in fewer than 1% of patients: amnesia, anxiety, discolored hair, dizziness, dry skin, hirsutism, hostility, impaired urination, paresthesia, penis disorder, peripheral edema, sweating, and vasodilation.

In this clinical trial of AndroGel®, skin reactions at the site of application were occasionally reported with AndroGel® but none was severe enough to require treatment or discontinuation of drug.

Six (4%) patients in this trial had adverse events that led to discontinuation of AndroGel®. These events included the following: cerebral hemorrhage, convulsion (neither of which were considered related to AndroGel® administration), depression, sadness, memory loss, elevated prostate specific antigen and hypertension. No AndroGel® patients discontinued due to skin reactions.

In an uncontrolled pharmacokinetic study of 10 patients, two had adverse events associated with AndroGel®; these were asthenia and depression in one patient and increased libido and hyperkinesia in the other. Among 17 patients in foreign clinical studies there was one instance each of acne, erythema and benign prostate adenoma associated with a 2.5% testosterone gel formulation applied dermally.

One hundred six (106) patients have received AndroGel® for up to 12 months in a long-term follow-up study for patients who completed the controlled clinical trial. The preliminary safety results from this study are consistent with those reported for the controlled clinical trial. Table 2 summarizes those adverse events possibly, probably or definitely related to the use of AndroGel® and reported by at least 1% of the total number of patients during long-term exposure to AndroGel®.

Table 2. Incidence of Adverse Events Possibly, Probably or Definitely Related to the Use of AndroGel® in the Long-Term, Follow-up Study

Adverse Event	Dose of AndroGel®		
	5 g	7.5 g	10 g
Lab Test Abnormal*	4.2%	0.0%	6.3%
Peripheral Edema	1.4%	0.0%	3.1%
Acne	2.8%	0.0%	12.5%
Application Site Reaction	9.7%	10.0%	3.1%
Prostate Disorder**	2.8%	5.0%	18.8%
Urination Impaired	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%

\*Lab test abnormal included one patient each with elevated GGT, elevated hematocrit and hemoglobin, increased total bilirubin, worsened hyperlipidemia, decreased HDL, and hypokalemia.

\*\*Prostate disorders included enlarged prostate, elevated PSA results, and in one patient, a new diagnosis of prostate cancer; three patients (one taking 7.5 g daily and two taking 10 g daily) discontinued AndroGel® treatment during the long-term study because of such disorders.

### DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

AndroGel® contains testosterone, a Schedule III controlled substance as defined by the Anabolic Steroids Control Act. Oral ingestion of AndroGel® will not result in clinically significant serum testosterone concentrations due to extensive first-pass metabolism.

### OVERDOSAGE

There is one report of acute overdosage by injection of testosterone enanthate: testosterone levels of up to 11,400 ng/dL were implicated in a cerebrovascular accident.

### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The recommended starting dose of AndroGel® 1% is 5 g delivering 5 mg of testosterone systemically, applied once daily (preferably in the morning) to clean, dry, intact skin of the shoulders and upper arms and/or abdomen. Upon opening the packet(s), the entire contents should be squeezed into the palm of the hand and immediately applied to the application sites. Application sites should be allowed to dry for a few minutes prior to dressing. Hands should be washed with soap and water after AndroGel® has been applied.

Do not apply AndroGel® to the genitals.

Serum testosterone levels should be measured approximately 14 days after initiation of therapy to ensure proper dosing. If the serum testosterone concentration is below the normal range, or if the desired clinical response is not achieved, the daily AndroGel® 1% dose may be increased from 5 g to 7.5 g and from 7.5 g to 10 g as instructed by the physician.

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# SF State opens sexuality center

by Matthew S. Bajko

With the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reporting an increase in the number of diagnosed AIDS cases nationwide for the first time since 1993, the need for frank talk about sexuality and disease prevention has never been greater.

To help raise the level of literacy on sexuality in America, San Francisco State University is launching the National Sexuality Resource Center – the first of its kind in the country – today (Thursday, February 20). Center officials hope to provide positive knowledge to replace what they say is the fear-based image of sexuality now so pervasive in America.

The center was created by Gilbert Herdt, head of the Human Sexuality Studies Program at SFSU and who established SFSU's new master's program in human sexuality studies, the first program of its type in the Western United States. According to Herdt, many policy makers, educators, social workers and health care providers, even doctors, have little more than a basic understanding of sexuality education.

"Training in sexuality education for professionals is scant. From professionals to parents, many people are surprisingly illiterate about sexual health, education or rights. The center hopes to bridge that gap," said Herdt.

San Francisco State received a \$1.1 million grant from the Ford Foundation to create the sexuality center. Essentially, the center will be a clearinghouse, providing a credible source for a clear understanding of the latest research on human sexuality and sexual health, education and rights for the public and practitioners, such as social workers, nurses or teachers. The center, which will conduct research and policy studies,

HIV/AIDS prevention in ethnic minority communities, sexual orientation and growing up, sexuality and aging, and immigrant populations dealing with the mores of sexuality in America.

One of the center's first efforts will be the creation of a comprehensive Web site – [www.nsrc.sfsu.edu](http://www.nsrc.sfsu.edu) – that will make available accurate information about human sexuality. The public will be able to download the latest

body and your relationships."

The center is located at 2017 Mission Street, Suite 300, across from the 16th Street BART station. It is open to the public but center officials have not determined yet what its hours will be. The public is invited to attend the dedication of the center's seminar room and library next month.

The seminar room will be named in honor of Evelyn Booker, a University of California at Los

Angeles psychologist who pioneered research showing homosexuality is not a disease and in 1973 headed a task force that prompted the National Institutes of Health to declassify homosexuality as a disease. The library will be named in honor of Andrew Boxer, a Chicago psychologist who pioneered research on gay and lesbian youth.

The open house and dedication will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, March 7. ▼

## "We are trying to create new dialogue between academics and advocates in the country."

will bring together researchers, practitioners, and community-based partners to close the gap in training and dissemination of information on sexuality education.

"We are trying to create new dialogue between academics and advocates in the country. There are too few resources to empower and connect people working in the trenches with academics," said Herdt. "We want to raise the antenna and radar for information and resources to include research and evidence based on information as opposed to television coverage based primarily on opinion."

The center will examine contemporary issues such as

developments in sexuality research and access articles of general interest and practical guidance on sexual health. The center also plans to conduct workshops and summer institutes on theory and methodology for practitioners.

"Rather than feeling afraid to ask questions, young people and middle age people and older people should feel free and open to ask about sexuality and how to protect themselves from, for example, syphilis and HIV," said Herdt. "And also how to create more pleasure-based relationships. Pleasure in this sense means feeling better about yourself, feeling positive about yourself, your

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**Gay Health Care Since 1979**

# Q-Force celebrates one year

by Zak Szymanski

Last year, a group of young adults formed Q-Force, an organization that both created a niche for the 18-28 year-old queer population – a segment often overlooked by youth and adult groups alike – and aimed to give back to the community at large.

Now, Q-Force is inviting all members of the community to celebrate its first anniversary, at a party on Friday, February 28 on the fourth floor of the LGBT Community Center from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

City Treasurer Susan Leal will be a guest speaker at the event, and entertainment will be provided by electronic music group Matmos, DJ Jamez, and aerialist Benn Mendoza.

In its first year, Q-Force has carried out more than 30 volunteer projects, donating hundreds of hours of volunteer time to a variety of Bay Area nonprofit organizations. Q-Force has worked on behalf of AIDS and cancer, environmental degradation, hunger and homelessness, drug recovery, animal welfare, voter awareness and the social and health needs of the LGBT community.

Based upon the premise that

group activities and community service help to build self-esteem and a sense of belonging, Q-Force members participate in one social and up to several volunteer events per month. There are no minimum volunteer requirements, allowing members to participate in one or a variety of projects and gain exposure to different agencies and causes in the process.

Next Friday's party is free to those 28 and under, and a donation of \$5-\$20 is suggested for others; bring identification. Admission includes food and beverages.

For more information on Q-Force, visit [www.geocities.com/qforcesf](http://www.geocities.com/qforcesf). ▼

## Antiwar protest

◀ page 1

1,000-strong – also included a wider array of participants than the breakaway action following the January 18 antiwar march.

After leaving Civic Center about 3 p.m., the breakaway group wove through the streets of the Tenderloin, often blocking traffic. Near Union Square some protesters attempted to cross a line of police on horseback, resulting the afternoon's first skirmish. Later, two activists climbed atop a cable car at Powell and Market. During the march a small number of protesters graffitied buildings and buses, overturned newspaper boxes, and broke a few store windows.

As the afternoon wore on, protesters and police confronted each other on Market Street near 8th. Police ordered the crowd to disperse and at one point corralled protesters in front of the Ramada Hotel on Market Street, site of the annual International Bear Rendezvous.

Some activists were allegedly beaten with batons and accused police of using excessive force. Police said protesters pelted them with rocks and bottles. At least two police cruisers were vandalized. The stand-off ended shortly after 7 p.m. when police arrested demonstrators who refused to clear the intersection. In total, there were about 50 arrests during the day, all but about five of whom were cited and released.

Some organizers of the main march decried the vandalism and confrontation of the breakaway action, saying it detracted from the huge, peaceful march and rally. Others refused to condemn the radicals.

"The level of violence and destruction that the United States has in store for the people in Iraq is a million-fold of what we saw on the streets of San Francisco," said Tanya Mayo of Not in Our Name. "That was a very small group and very small aspect of a bigger day. There are people who feel they need to cross over the line, whatever that line is for them."

## Queer march Friday

San Francisco queers are ready to keep up the antiwar pressure. LAGAI, QUIT, and other LGBT war opponents will hold a march in the Castro tomorrow (Friday, February 21). Demonstrators will gather at 5:15 p.m. at Castro and Market intersection and march at 5:45 p.m.

"It's really important to show our outrage and energy in the queer community and to get people involved whose sympathies might be with us, but who aren't coming out to the big marches," said Raphael. "To stop this war, everyone needs to be doing everything. We need to work both together with the larger antiwar movement and in our own communities."

OATWC and the Milk Club are both members of Bay Area United Against War, one of the four large coalitions that organized Sunday's march and rally; the others are United for Peace and Justice, International ANSWER (Act Now to Stop War and End Racism), and Not in Our Name. ▼

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# Can infection with a 2nd virus help your HIV?

by Bob Roehr

**H**epatitis, herpes, PCP — the list of viral coinfections that you do not want to get if you are HIV-positive seems endless. So is it counterintuitive to think that a coinfection with another virus could be beneficial?

That possibility has to be considered in light of several papers presented on February 13 at the 10th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infection in Boston.

The oddity is GB Virus type C (GBV-C). It was identified in 1995, can be transmitted through blood products and sex, and is a close genetic relative to hepatitis C. However, on its own, it appears to be benign. Coinfection seems to actually slow the progression of HIV infection.

Dr. Jack Stapleton, a researcher at the University of Iowa and a coauthor of two of the papers, said that GBV-C "is a very common human infection." It "makes the cell produce more of the cytokine RANTES, MIP-1a, and MIP-1b."

These cytokines down-regulate cell surface expression of CCR5, one of the primary coreceptors that HIV uses to enter the cell. If the coreceptor is not expressed on the cell surface but pulled back inside, HIV has nothing to grab onto to enter the cell. People who inherit the delta-32 mutation, a variation in the genes where the CCR5 receptor is not produced, are virtually impervious to infection with HIV.

Carolyn Williams, Ph.D., an epidemiologist at the National Institutes of Health, looked at the MACS cohort (Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study) to see what she

could learn about coinfection with GBV-C. The blood samples and medical histories of that group of gay men have been studied for two decades and have yielded some of the most profound understandings about HIV.

She looked at blood samples when the men entered the study and five to six years later. At the first visit, 39 percent showed direct evidence of GBV-C in their blood. An additional 46 percent no longer carried the virus but did show antibodies to it, indicating that they had cleared the infection.

Then Williams looked at their

medical records an average of 11 years after they became infected with HIV. She found that "75 percent of the men who were consistently positive" for GBV-C were still alive, but only 39 percent of men who never saw the coinfection were still alive. Worse yet were the 12 people who had been infected with GBV-C but had cleared the virus, only 16 percent of them were still alive.

"Persistently carrying this virus gives a substantial benefit to the men who carry it," concluded Williams. "It's like giving somebody another 300 T-cells."

The protective effect of GBV-C

appears to decline over time, which suggests to Stapleton "that HIV is doing something bad to the [cellular] environment."

Williams is wary of conducting a trial that would actively infect a person with GBV-C to control HIV. While a persistent infection may be beneficial, "if they clear it, they're in trouble." Stapleton has fewer reservations; he could envision carrying out such a trial in advanced patients who have few other options. Better understanding the mechanisms of GBV-C infection may lead to development of small molecule therapies based on those mechanisms.

Williams said that treatment of hepatitis C may result in the clearance of GBV-C. If the beneficial aspects of GBV-C's inhibition of HIV infection are confirmed, that would pose additional dilemmas of whether or not to treat HCV in those individuals who are coinfecting with all three viruses.

Both researchers said it would be important to look at HIV long-term non or slow progressors to evaluate the presence and impact of GBV-C on their disease, in much the same way that researchers examine the presence of the CCR5 delta-32 mutation to see the effect. ▼

## Gay Pakistani

◀ page 1

America in search of freedom, and he has lived here — undocumented — for the last 17 years, with slim hopes of one day attaining legal status. Though he's been sponsored by his sister, an American citizen, and supported in part by his brother in New Jersey, a green card holder, KJ remains terrified at the prospect of being sent home to what he feels is certain persecution. And that terror has kept him from facing U.S. authorities empowered to send him home.

"You can get a hundred lashings or stoned to death or imprisoned" for being gay in Pakistan, KJ declared.

Until now, KJ hasn't had to face the music, but after 9/11, with the nation on the alert for potential terrorists, his number's up: this week the Immigration and Naturalization Service began calling citizens and nationals of Pakistan and Saudi Arabia to register, be fingerprinted, and interviewed

under oath. On Tuesday, Feb. 18, KJ underwent an all-day interview and learned the INS will now initiate "removal proceedings." Unless he receives asylum, he could be deported.

"He might be detained and have to get out on bail," said Dusty Araujo, asylum program coordinator for the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, who has reviewed KJ's case. "It could take the INS days or weeks to check on who he is." However, Araujo added, KJ "has been in the country undocumented quite a few years," which could cause him a problem. In ordinary circumstances, however, once a person has filed an application for asylum with the INS, which KJ has, "you have legal status in the process of seeking remedy," which affords at least temporary protection.

Marta Donayre, co-founder of Love Sees No Borders ([www.loveeseesnoborders.org](http://www.loveeseesnoborders.org)), public education director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, and a member of the steering committee for Amnesty International's "Out Front Program," is not entirely optimistic.

"The problem right now," she said, "is that whatever was happening before 9/11 that was bad [in terms of dealing with the INS] is now worse."

With respect to the INS registration program, said Donayre, "there have been a lot of abuses by the INS. A lot of people are being sent to detention and expelled. If you are an American with a partner from Pakistan, you have no way of protecting your partner. It's impacting this community a lot. Most of the people stay silent. Visas have been denied abroad because of same-sex relationships. We have had couples who are reluctant even to talk to us. There's a very high level of paranoia."



DJ KJ on the job

While KJ's fears of deportation are real, by no means is he alone in his struggle to stay in the U.S. He has an asylum hearing with the INS scheduled for February 24 — his best chance at staying in America — and his case is being handled by Robert Jobe, one of San Francisco's most respected asylum attorneys.

### Broad support

Beyond that, in San Francisco alone, not to mention Los Angeles and Kirkland, Washington, where he has also lived, KJ has many friends working to keep him safe in the U.S. Included in the roster of KJ supporters are such gay community leaders as Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) and Supervisors Tom Ammi and Bevan Dufty, as well as SF Pride Executive Director Teddy Witherington, and the San Francisco Late Night Coalition's John Wood, who views KJ as a local treasure. They and countless others are circulating petitions and drafting letters to show the INS and anyone else who cares that KJ is a beloved figure in the local dance scene, having contributed to many gay festivities. They feel he deserves asylum in America, where he has become an integral, highly valued part of the gay and lesbian social fabric.

Clearly KJ faces a dire situation if forced back home.

"Gays in Pakistan live in shame and fear," KJ said. "It's not acknowledged, respected, and appreciated as it is here. If I go back to Pakistan, I would go to my mom's place and she would pressure me to get married, which means emotional torture for myself and the woman I marry. I can't stand living a lie anymore. I fear if my identity is revealed, I could be tortured, blackmailed, kidnapped, raped. Islamic law punishes gays by flogging, torture, stoning. Especially me being a minority, I'll be treated as less than human."

He lived in Karachi until he was 17, and was always being made fun of because he didn't play sports or act macho.

"I didn't actually come out

there, but I was outed," KJ said. "I became very isolated and had to keep feelings inside myself. My sister knew my life in Pakistan, that I wasn't going to make it for very long. She filed for my student visa, and I came to Southern California and went to high school in Irvine, and then to Irvine Valley Community College, but I didn't finish college. I was able to take classes without being harassed. For the first time ever I started going to gay youth groups and dance clubs and people were open to being my friend without sexual connotations to it."

Now KJ lives in a funky pad in the inner Mission District, sharing it with other gay artists who do makeup, photography, and landscaping, among other pursuits. KJ himself barely gets by deejaying and doing odd jobs such as house painting. His sister and brother send him money, but he squeezes by on a very bare minimum. He's the epitome of an artist living on the edge.

"I'm not ashamed to ask for protection from America," said KJ. "I am a human being like everybody else. I've found respect, dignity, and stability here, and they're all very dear to me, and I didn't have those things growing up in Pakistan, and being in America has provided me the chance to focus on my art."

Without a doubt, his art has had a mighty impact. He has deejayed at four Pink Saturdays, and an equal number of Halloween celebrations in the Castro, starting in 1998. His deejay stand, most often set up in front of Nirvana restaurant, always draws the youngest crowds eager to experience KJ's cutting-edge progressive-trance sounds. KJ has spun at Pride Celebrations in Civic Center since 1998, including on two floats — Blue Room (1999) and Braindrops (2000) — the Red Bull dance stage (2001), and SF Late Night Coalition's "Tantra" stage (2002). He also DJ'd for the "World Peace through Technology Fair" in San Francisco, better known as the "How Weird Street Fair," where he's been music coordinator for last three years. On top of that, over the last five consecutive years, he's deejayed at least 30 times at the ultimate outdoor venue, Burning Man, out on the Black Rock Desert of Nevada. By that count, KJ — a close friend of world-renowned Indian DJ Goa Gill — may be the most requested and danced-to deejay on the playa.

"KJ is a very gentle being who uses music to make people joyous," says friend and music collaborator Wood, legislative analyst of the SF Late Night Coalition, which builds bridges between the dance community and civic leaders. "He's not involved in politics at all. His whole life is about art and music." ▼



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## MAX-imum exposure



William Treadwell, left, shows an expensive shirt (no need to buy one when you have that chest!) from Saks Fifth Avenue to MAX member Derwyn Denton. It was part of the gay men's social group's "Fifth Friday" event January 31 at the Union Square store that was also a benefit for Shanti. Keith Sjöholm, MAX marketing director, said that 150 people attended and that \$2,500 was raised for Shanti, which provides emotional and practical support to people living with AIDS. The next Fifth Friday event is May 30. For more information on the Men's Associated Exchange, visit [www.maxonline.org](http://www.maxonline.org).

## New treatments for HIV look promising

by Bob Roehr

Basic research into the molecular nature of infection of HIV is now paying off with the design of inhibitors of that replicative process for both old and new targets of intervention, said one doctor at an HIV/AIDS conference last week.

"It's an exciting and important year for therapy," said Dr. John Mellors, "the pipeline of new antiretrovirals is fuller than it has been for a long time."



Dr. John Mellors

"It seems that for the first time we are beginning to keep up with the virus in terms of its ability to develop resistance," Mellors, a University of Pittsburgh researcher and conference organizer, told reporters at the 10th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, held in Boston February 10-14.

One of the promising new drugs is TMC114, a protease inhibitor (PI) first identified by the company Tibotec. It has shown excellent activity in the lab against many of the major PI-resistant strains of virus.

Dr. Kiekawus Arasteh, a researcher in Berlin, said the drug was administered with a low dose of ritonavir, as are many other PIs, to help maintain higher concentrations in the blood. It replaced the failing PI in the combination therapy. The phase II trial of 50 patients was only 14 days long and was designed to help determine the best dose for larger trials.

The reduction in viral load ranged from 0.47 to 2.5 logs across the three arms of the trial, with a mean reduction of 1.35

logs. Some 40 percent of these highly experienced patients became undetectable as measured by an assay with a cutoff of 400 copies of the virus. All but one of the patients on TCM114/r showed at least a half log drop in viral load from baseline.

"There was no statistically significant difference between the three treatment arms," said Arasteh.

The drug was generally well tolerated. About a third of the patients experienced lower GI problems such as diarrhea and flatulence, while headache (16 percent) and dizziness (11 percent) also were observed. One patient discontinued due to GI events and another due to hepatotoxicity, though it is not clear if the drug contributed to the latter incident.

When an audience member expressed concern that this was yet another PI that used low dose ritonavir, Arasteh said they "don't know yet if it is necessary to boost this compound, there are other ongoing trials" that don't use ritonavir as a boost.

### TNX-355

TNX-355 is a monoclonal antibody that takes a very different approach. It is what can broadly be classified as an entry inhibitor, the first of which, T-20 is likely to be approved by the Food and Drug Administration in the next few months. There are at least three points during the entry process where drugs seem to be able to disrupt and block HIV from entering cells to infect them.

TNX-355 targets the CD4 receptor that HIV first latches on to during the entry process. It attaches to the side of the CD4 receptor in a way that does not interfere with its regular function as a chemokine receptor. Nor does it interfere with HIV's docking with the CD4 receptor, but it does get in the way and prevent HIV from taking further steps in the process of entering the cell.

Dr. Daniel Kuritzkes, a researcher at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, presented data on the first time the drug was put into humans.

It was a safety study, a phase I trial in 30 heavily treatment experienced HIV patients, 19 of whom were failing HAART. Entry criteria included a CD4 count greater than 100, stable viral load greater than 5,000 copies, and no or stable therapy for at least eight weeks prior to enrollment. Groups of patients were given increasing amounts of a single dose of the drug based upon weight.

"There was a dose dependent decline in viral load, with an average reduction of 1.4 logs," said Kuritzkes. CD4 counts increased in a manner that is seen with declines in viral load using other combinations of therapy.

A single administration of the higher doses of TNX-355 coated the CD4 receptors for 15-27 days. "The nadir of the viral load was closely related to the duration of the coating," he said. That means that injections of the monoclonal antibody may have to be given only once every 2-3 weeks.

Another likely advantage is that it offers an entirely new strategy for controlling HIV. It is likely that the virus will have to evolve different mutation patterns from those to existing drugs in order to develop resistance to the monoclonal antibody.

One potential stumbling block was seen in macaques (monkeys) given multiple doses of the monoclonal — they developed antibodies to it that blocked activity of the drug. But chimpanzees did not develop such antibodies. Kuritzkes is hoping that humans will react similarly to their closer genetic relation. Results from the single dose trial in humans are encouraging. Nonetheless, the issue is one that will be closely monitored as the drug moves into large

next page ►

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# TGs often get the runaround from gov't

by Chris Daley

The following is an occasional column compiled by the Transgender Law Center that answers basic legal questions of interest to San Francisco's transgender, intersex, gender-variant, and genderqueer communities.

As some U.S. government officials grow increasingly worried about the security of identity documents, it is becoming more difficult for transgender people to receive accurate information about requirements for updating government and business records. This column will highlight some of the different questions that the Transgender Law Center has received over the last six months and lay out, to the best of my knowledge, the answers to each.

As always, this information should not be relied on as legal advice. Instead, you should contact me at (415) 865-0176 or e-mail [chris@transgenderlawcenter.org](mailto:chris@transgenderlawcenter.org) to get free legal counseling on specific questions you have about changing identity documents.

**Q:** Do I need to get a court order to change my name with the DMV?

**A:** No. While some Department of Motor Vehicles employees will tell you differently, the DMV has made no modifications to its name change policy. All you need to do to change the name and gender marker on your identification is to have your physician complete the DL-328 form. In completing this form, your physician is declaring that you have transitioned from your birth identified gender to your true gender.

You do not need to have undergone any form of hormone or surgical treatment to utilize this form.

If you are told anything differently by a DMV employee in regards to either a name or gender marker change you should request to speak to a supervisor. That person can be directed to their office's field manual for additional information on the requirements for using the DL-328. If you continue to have difficulties, do not hesitate to contact me for assistance at the above phone number or e-mail address.

A quick note, the DL-328 form itself is laid out in a somewhat confusing manner. To help people complete it properly, TLC has created an instruction sheet. You can request a copy of the form and/or the instruction sheet by contacting me.

**Q:** I changed my name and gender marker on my driver's license more than five years ago. At the time, I did not change the same information on my Social Security account. When it came time to renew my driver's license, I received a letter from the DMV informing me that I could not renew my license in my current name because it did not match my Social Security records. Do I really have to go back to having my birth name on my driver's license?

**A:** No, all you need to do is update your Social Security records. At one time, a person could change the name and gender marker on their driver's license or California ID without having to also change the same information with the Social Security Administration. However, in the late 1990s, due to concerns over identity theft, the DMV changed its policy and began to only issue a license or ID to someone in the name that matches their Social Security records.

Therefore, if you received a letter from the DMV saying that they will only reissue your license in the name on your Social Security account, you'll simply need to go to Social Security and change your name there. If your license or ID is about to expire, you should be able to request an extension on the renewal so that you can correct your information with the Social Security Administration.

To do that, you simply need to fill out a SS-5 form and submit it with the proper identification to the Social Security Administration. While you do not need a court order, you will need to have identification in both your old

name and your new name. If you have questions about what is appropriate identification, either contact me or take a look at the Social Security Administration's Web site at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov).

While you do not need to update the gender marker at the Social Security Administration in order to get a license or ID with the correct gender marker, you can do so. The Social Security Administration has guidelines for what documents you'll need to produce to do this. To get more information on this policy, contact TLC.



## Legal Translations

**Q:** I'm a permanent resident and was told that I could only change the name on my Social Security account after I have changed it on my green card. Is that true?

**A:** No. The Social Security Administration once had a policy like this, but has since changed it. Which is a good thing since it can be time consuming to change the name on your green card. All you will need to do is follow the above instructions for changing your name. If you have any problems, please contact TLC.

**Q:** I want to change the name on my MediCal account. Since I am on SSDI (which is how I have MediCal), I have been told that I need to change my name with the Social Security Administration. I have done that, but MediCal does not seem to recognize the change. Any idea what is going on?

**A:** Probably. The first thing I have to make clear is that MediCal (and HMOs that service MediCal clients) seems to be, from my limited experience, a little inconsistent about changing people's name and gender marker in their records. However, as you have described the situation, your problem is likely with the Social Security Administration.

As a person on SSDI, you have both a Social Security account and a SSDI account. Just because you have changed your name on your Social Security account, that doesn't mean that your name has been changed on your SSDI account. A quick call your local Social Security office should shed some light on the situation.

You should first ask the agent to check your Social Security account just to make sure the change went through. That same person should also be able to check your SSDI account. Likely, that is where the problem lies. If your birth name is still on your SSDI account, the agent should be

able to process the change for you over the phone.

If you have already provided the Social Security Administration with information for changing your Social Security account, you should not need to provide this information a second time to change your SSDI account. Once you change these records, your MediCal account should become updated within a month. However, you may need to follow up with another call to MediCal to make sure.

If you have MediCal through a program other than SSDI, you should contact your county administrator to update your records. As always, contact TLC for assistance if problems arise.

**Q:** I have changed my name on my driver's license and with Social Security. However, when I went to my bank to change my name there, I was told that I would need a court order. Is this true?

**A:** No. California law recognizes your ability to change your name without a court order. This is why you are able to change your records at the DMV and SSA without one. Unfortunately, some banks and other businesses believe otherwise. I know of at least a couple of people who have had to switch banks over this issue.

One thing to keep in mind when you do get a bank to comply with your request is that you may

want to maintain your old name somewhere in your account record. This is especially true if you receive an annual payment of some sort or have people in your life that will refuse to write checks to you in your current name.

Some people have done this by simply adding their current name to their account. The result is that they have what looks like a joint account even though both names are theirs. A second option is to have your old name listed as an AKA (also known as) in your account records. Doing so will allow you to deposit checks written to your old name.

The information provided in this column is not intended as a substitute for legal advice. If you have a legal question about your specific circumstances, please contact an attorney or the appropriate government agency. ▼

Transgender Law Center staff members Dylan Wade and Chris Daley answer transgender legal questions via phone (415-865-5619) and e-mail ([daley@nclrights.org](mailto:daley@nclrights.org)) and at free twice a month legal clinics. The center is a fiscally sponsored project of the National Center for Lesbian Rights and receives additional support from the Echoing Green Foundation, Female-to-Male International, and the Yale Public Interest Initiative.

## Staph infections

◀ page 4

much his staff can do.

For now, health officials intend to rely on doctors to voluntarily report MSRA cases to them. Nor do they foresee, at this point, interviewing gay men who have MSRA in order to determine how these men became infected.

"We will send out a survey to physicians to inquire about their interest," Dr. Tomàs Aragón, director of community health, epidemiology and disease control for the health department, said during the forum at the LGBT Community Center. "We need a good surveillance system to be in place first. We don't have the resources to interview people."

But Dr. William Owen, a member of the forum panel who has a private practice in the Castro, called on the city to investigate how gay men are acquiring MSRA.

"We need to do some effective contact tracing to determine the mode of how this is spread," said Owen. "We haven't done any person to person interviews. Just like we did in the early days of the AIDS epidemic, we need to be doing extensive interviews with people."

Owen also criticized health officials for not informing medical providers about the MSRA infections.

There has to be communication between DPH and the private labs in this city. Not all of these cases are being reported and not all of these are being cultured," said Owen. "I don't think we really know the magnitude of this in the Bay Area. There is no systematized way we can get a handle on this at this time."

Not everyone agreed such efforts are necessary. John Stansell, director of HIV services at San Francisco General Hospital, said he was skeptical of taking such an approach.

"I am worried about your call for trace tracking. We can't assume anything about the data," he said.

While they do not have a full grasp as to the extent of MSRA in the community, those monitoring the staph infections said there is reason to be concerned.

"We can't tell for certain if it is a problem or not. But right now there is enough evidence to be concerned," said Edwin Charlebois, an infectious disease specialist at San Francisco General Hospital. "This is not a new bug and it is not a new resistant staph. What is new is MSRA is now moving into communities we haven't previously identified." ▼

## HIV treatments

◀ page 19

er trials.

Another entry inhibitor candidate is in early development by Pfizer. Manos Perros said they screened a library of compounds for anti-HIV activity in laboratory cell lines. UK-427,857 shows activity against virus that use the CCR5 coreceptor to gain access to cells, but not against virus that uses the CXCR4 coreceptor. Most

HIV uses CCR5 and generally switches to CXCR4 only in the most advanced stages of disease.

"There seems to be more antiviral activity than just binding to the cell coreceptor," he said. If the compound is washed away from the cells, the protective effect seems to remain for at least 2-4 hours. They are trying to figure out exactly where the compound binds, likely on some portion of the CCR5 coreceptor. There likely will be a synergy between various types of entry inhibitors. ▼

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## OBITUARIES

## Douglas Arden Donaghy



Douglas Arden Donaghy left us on the morning of January 23, 2003. He was 61 years old. He is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Don and Maggie Donaghy; sister Leslie Donaghy; nieces

Brandy, Halona, and Mahala; and his many friends including Sam, Nic, David, Mark, Pat, John, Debbie, Jody, Helen, Kathy, Ray, and the entire staff of the Triple R and of course, Mama's Family.

Mr. Donaghy was previously the owner of the Paradise Cove Resort. He joined the staff of the Triple R three years ago and was active in local community charities. Always known for his zest for life and willingness to help others, he loved his pure-bred pug dogs and was seldom seen without them.

A celebration of his life will be held at the Russian River Resort on Sunday, February 23, from 2-4 p.m. All are invited. The Triple R is located in Guerneville, at the corner of 4th and Mill streets. In lieu of flowers, donations

can be made to Face to Face in Santa Rosa or Pets Are Loving Support (PAWS) in Guerneville.

## Roger L. Phillips



Roger L. Phillips was born in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. At 18 he moved to Portland, Oregon, where he met Charles Stern, his partner of ten years. Three years later they moved to San Francisco

where he worked as an assistant manager at Walgreens. For two years he was president of the Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association. He was instrumental in establishing the mini park at Noe and Beaver.

In 1990 Roger moved to Acapulco where he opened El Pulpo, a popular bar in the downtown area. Roger died in his beloved Acapulco at age 41 of an aneurysm. He is survived by his parents, Dee and Roger, his partner of 12 years, Eleuterio Reyes, and numerous friends and family.

## Eleanor Dignan

Eleanor Dignan, a 57-year resident of San Francisco passed away on Thursday, February 13, aged 84, after a six-month bout with cancer.

Dignan was born in Baltimore on December 14, 1918, as Eleanor Ann Lo-brano. Her father William, was a career Navy line officer, and according to sister Alice Lemke, when Dignan was a child the family lived in Navy towns all around the US. She came of age in the Great Depression and World War II; she was 22 on Pearl Harbor day.

She met and married her husband, Joe Dignan, a native San Franciscan, in San Diego, in 1942 when he was stationed at Camp Eliot. Their six-month war-time courtship led to marriage, on July 5, 1942.

Dignan became a fixture on San Francisco street corners as she and a group of painters, led by noted California watercolorist George Post, met every Friday to paint San Francisco's street scenes. She was a member of San Francisco Women Artists, the Society of Western Artists and the Marin Watercolor Society. Her paintings were shown in many national museum exhibitions, including several here at San Francisco's

DeYoung Museum. They won many prizes in juried shows.

Her enthusiasms later in life, besides painting, included Dixieland jazz, opera and playing bridge. She was a great believer in horoscopes, particularly those in *Town and Country* magazine, which summarized her character: "She's cheerful and gregarious, popular and loves to party. She's hot blooded, impatient, independent and feisty, but above all, perceptive, warm and loving."

She is survived by her divorced husband Joe, sister Alice, niece Ann Best of San Francisco, and nephew Will Lemke of Montana. Her son, Joe, is a regular contributor to the *Bay Area Reporter*. A memorial service will be held at the Metropolitan Club, 640 Sutter Street in San Francisco, on Thursday, February 27 at 6 p.m. Contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to the Eleanor Dignan fund at the Metropolitan Club.

## OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste. If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death. Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

## Ark House

◀ page 1

presently putting together in the upper Market area."

District 8 Supervisor Bevan Duffy, who replaced Leno on the board, dined with residents of Ark House in January and has asked Mayor Willie Brown to help in securing a new home for the program.

"I am ready to move forward and bring together city partners and anyone from the philanthropic community to come forward and help us find a permanent home for this facility," said Duffy. "There is a lot of vacant property in the city. There are a number of options we can explore but there is not a lot of turnaround time."

Politzer said the agency is eyeing several properties throughout the upper Market Street area, and has been negotiating with the owners of the building adjacent to the LGBT Community Center at 1800 Market Street.

"The building next to the community center would allow this program to expand over time and allow this agency to provide many more programs and services in that area," said Politzer.

To date, no lease has been signed and it is uncertain when and where a new home will be found for Ark House. Politzer said he does not want the process to drag on much longer.

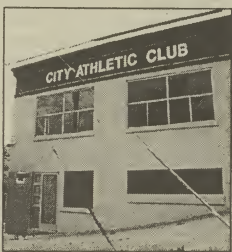
"I am not going to put any time frame on that property [next to the center] but it will not be as long as we have been at 2500 Market Street," he said. "It should be happening very soon."

For the time being, Ark House will move into an old Victorian that the nonprofit agency has a long-term lease on and uses to house various programs. The new location also affords the youth a more home-like environment during their stay, compared to the current location that still feels like a gym. Communal bathrooms are located on the first floor while on the second floor, partitions divide the old workout space into living quarters.

The new house provides bedrooms for Ark House residents and has a working kitchen which could allow the residents to cook meals together. For the last two years, the program has catered meals, and Politzer said the agency is looking at whether to have the youth prepare their own food.

"It feels more homey and it definitely is more residential in nature. It is a very quiet building and it's a beautiful building," said Politzer.

The pending move is welcomed by Ark House's immediate



Former gym now houses queer youth, but the program will soon be moving.

neighbors, who said they are heartened to see the city and the agency honor the agreement with the neighborhood. When Ark House was originally proposed as a drop-in center for homeless youth, neighbors objected and hammered out a deal between the city and Ark of Refuge to change the scope of the project to a more controlled program.

As part of the agreement, the two-year clause was built into the terms of the program's lease. Castro residents involved in the negotiations said the city's adherence to the agreement will enhance its ability to work with neighborhood groups on future projects.

"It is important commitments made to neighborhoods be honored," said Gustavo Serina, president of the Eureka Valley Promotion Association. "They made a commitment they would only be there for two years. It was a very controversial aspect to the negotiations. It is nice to know that the city

and Ark of Refuge kept their word." Some neighbors who at first were skeptical of Ark House's arrival said the program will be missed, somewhat.

"I have found the Ark House and the residents of Ark House to generally be good neighbors. They have been, by all accounts, considerate," said Mike Babbitt, who lives next door to the facility.

Babbitt sits on a neighborhood advisory committee set up to address potential problems and encourage dialogue between neighbors and program officials.

"They have been a good neighbor. Part of me is saying 'Gosh what is going to be there next?' We kind of had a nice little living arrangement between us," said Babbitt. "If a nightclub moves in, it certainly would be bad. I am of two minds about the whole thing."

As Ark House prepares to relocate, Politzer said he hopes the program will be warmly received by a new set of neighbors. And once it does find a solid foundation, Ark House hopes to open its doors to even more homeless queer youth in need of help to get off the streets.

"It is a very bad time right now for a lot of existing programs and to be able to maintain this program at the level we will is something that is encouraging to us because the long-term plans for this agency is to provide a breadth of housing services for LGBTQ adults not just transitional. We want to maintain this until the economy is growing and we can expand in the future," said Politzer. ▼

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# Flurry of talent

by Jim Provenzano

Figure skating at Gay Games VI proved a wonderful community bridge-builder in a great facility, despite being a bit out of the way at Macquarie Ice Rink in suburban North Sydney. Being set in the middle of Sydney's largest shopping mall, with windows overlooking the rink from a McDonald's, added pop culture panache.

Unlike the messy events of Gay Games V, medals would actually be awarded in Sydney. In 1998, a volley of disagreements between skating unions and Dutch Games organizers left many figure skaters bereft, despite the token medals doled out to all competitors at what was hastily renamed a "public practice."

Having completed two lengthy days of competition in Sydney, a diverse mix of skaters got to cut loose and show off their favorite creative routines on the Friday of Gay Games week at a gala showcase performance. From novices to Olympic competitors, it was a festive show that played to a sold-out house.

Solos, duets, and both amusing and somber group routines were performed. Former Olympians, some even retired, came to Sydney to perform, including Jouquin Guerrero Sandoval and David MacLean, the Australian former novice pairs champion, whose "Swan Lake" left a few feathers on the ice amid the congratulatory tossed flowers.

New York's Laura Moore, a founder of the International Gay & Lesbian Figure Skating Union whose work led to the first inclusion of figure skating at Gay Games IV in New York, looked resplendent in a form-fitting glittery rainbow body suit. Her designer? "Me!" she bubbled.

She had reason to smile, having won yet another three medals, including her creative section, which layered multiple drag costumes in a gender-bending and amusing display.

San Francisco novice skater

Alan Lessik took a butch theme with his leather straps and chaps look and won two silver medals, after almost canceling his Sydney trip because of a back injury last year.

Lessik had traveled extensively through New Zealand post-Games, and displayed a few aboriginal musical instruments bought along his tour. He noted the frequency of hand-made signs

boasting former *Lord of the Rings* film shot locations.

"I think they filmed every place," he said. "After a while, it became commonplace to see the signs."

## Kobacetic

No gay skating event would be complete without a little drag, or Michelle

Kwan — actually Adult Nationals champ Jay Kobayashi, who enjoyed being trailed all week by an enthusiastic Japanese TV crew, who made a short documentary about the fourth-generation Japanese American.

Kobayashi has lived in San Francisco his whole life, but didn't start skating until age 23.

We chatted this week via phone, where he enjoyed a few extra days in New York, as he's stuck there due to East Coast blizzards. He was set to perform at the Winter Classic in the Masters category.

"It turned out nobody else in my category showed up, and it's not a number I wanted to practice," he said.

A different number, his now celebrated Michelle Kwan routine, sadly may be retired. He won in his category last April in Ann Arbor at the Nationals Exhibition Gala doing the whimsical Kwan impersonation, which also wowed Sydney audiences.

In the spotlight category at the Games, Kobayashi won gold for his shorter number, set to *American Idol* Kelly Clarkson's hit single.

At 42 years old, he's now focusing on training for the Masters competitions in regional events, as well as his regular classes Monday through Thursday, instructing newbies and kids at Yerba Buena — that is, if he can get a plane

home.

When suggested that he do a little skating at Central Park's Wolman Rink, Kobayashi laughed.

"I would, but it's under a foot of snow!"

## Pal Joey

Things were quite a bit warmer in Sydney: Fame is no stranger to these talented folk, especially Joel Mangz of Melbourne, who was born in Sweden.

Having toured the world with Disney on Ice from 1997-2000, Mangz played Hades from *Hercules*, and other characters. He mentioned that while the work was exhausting, he got to do what he enjoys most, skating, albeit occasionally in stuffy costumes.

At Gay Games, playing himself resulted in two gold medals.

Although having lightheartedly mentioned in his announced bio that he was single, after ripping off his T-shirt to show off his muscles during his dazzling routine set to George Michael's "Freedom," Mangz said, "Actually, I got a few business cards."

Mangz also proved popular on Sydney's Bondi Beach during his off days, clad only in a Speedo.

## Old Europe

Gay skaters don't limit their performances to the Games. Last summer's Skate Out at Yerba Buena Ice Rink proved popular.

The fourth installment of the Mountain Cup, an open international adult skating competition, was held in Villard-de-Lans, France last May. It was a rare opportunity for a handful of Gay Games VI skaters to meet, compete and enjoy the high altitudes of the French Alps. European skaters were also given the chance to get their ISI testing out of the way thanks to a few US coaches on hand.

Gay Games VI competitors who premiered some of their routines included Frank Graber (Switzerland), Bradley Erickson (USA), Bettina Keil (Germany), Wade Corbett (USA), Laura Moore (USA), Mario Manns (Germany), and Jean-Francois Col (France).

Several Games competitors will also skate at the Pacific Coast Adult Sectional Championships & West Coast Adult Open in mid-March at the Yerba Buena Ice Skating Center, 750 Folsom Street in San Francisco. Info: (415) 820-3521.

For info on the San Francisco Skating Club, visit [www.scsf.org](http://www.scsf.org). For a lovely array of figure skating, other sports, and Australian scenic images, visit [www.rickmonk.com](http://www.rickmonk.com), or go directly to [www.gaygames2002.tripod.com/index.html](http://www.gaygames2002.tripod.com/index.html).



Splitting image: Joel Mangz flexed his way to gold in Sydney.

## Medal fest

Gay Games jocks, fans, and their friends are invited to the Sydney 2002 Games Reunion party, Saturday, March 1, from 4-6 p.m. at the Metro Bar, 3600 16th Street, at Noe and Market.

Invite your teammates and friends because organizers want to see everyone who went to Sydney. Wear your TeamSF uniform and team uniform. Share photos, souvenirs, medals, and memorabilia with athletes and supporters.

March 1 also kicks off the elections for the 2003 SF Pride organization grand marshal for which Team SF has been nominated. The party will be preceded by a Team SF general membership meeting at 3 p.m. For more info, visit [www.teamsf.org](http://www.teamsf.org) or call (415) 522-2986.

## These bases are loaded

If you have a competitive edge

## Exploitation

◀ page 3

shelter."

Providers at San Francisco General Hospital have reported treating girls for shackle wounds, sex abuse, and other injuries, and then having no choice but to release them to their pimps who were waiting for them to return to work. The criminal justice system, unfortunately, tends to arrest these girls for prostitution (174 last year alone), while successfully prosecuting only a very small number of their pimps. And while there is an immediate identified need for girls, according to task force members, child exploitation

and want to meet new people, the Gay Softball League will start up soon, and they are looking for players. The Free Agents Championship team needs players. For info call Mark at (415) 648-6632 and get involved.

## Duct, duct, Google

It would be nice to have woven in some sort of context between the wonder of participating with 10 million peace marchers the world over who took to the streets last weekend, and sports writing.

Instead, I'll refer you to my online articles at [www.sportscomplex.org](http://www.sportscomplex.org), and limit my comments here to an amusing discovery. Google search results for the phrase pro-war: 26,400. Antiwar: 412,000.

The next peace march is Saturday, March 1. Anarchists, note the word "peace." ▼

is not gender-biased, and there are indeed young boys who suffer similar victimization.

The task force will be presenting its findings to the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, February 25, and calling for the city to help fund its recommendations: a secure house, a 24-hour hotline, and outreach and prevention programs for vulnerable youth.

The community can help, according to San Francisco Foundation spokeswoman Sara Ying Kelley, by attending Tuesday's board meeting, and/or donating to the proposed program. An online link at [www.sff.org/giving/giveonline.html](http://www.sff.org/giving/giveonline.html) connects donors to a secure site, or interested donors can call (415) 733-8500. ▼

## Bay Area Gay Games VI figure skating medalists

(Classes are determined by age, Class I is 25-35, Class II 35-45, and Class III is 45 and up.)

Dan Ashbrook, 3rd place solo spotlight men, freestyle 5, Class II & III.

Lawrence Janssen, 3rd place solo artistic men, freestyle 1 & 2, Class II & III.

Jay Kobayashi, 1st place solo spotlight men, freestyle 6, Class II; 4th place solo artistic men, freestyle 6, Class II; 1st place couples spotlight men Class II with Bradley Erickson (NYC).

Ward Kokubun, 1st place solo spotlight men, freestyle 4, Class IIB; 4th place solo artistic men, freestyle 4 Class II.

Richard Lennon, 3rd place solo artistic men, freestyle 3, Class I & II.

Alan Lessik, 2nd place solo artistic men, freestyle 1&2, Class II & III; 2nd place solo spotlight men, freestyle 1&2, Class II & III.

John Manzon-Santos, 1st place solo artistic men, freestyle 1&2, Class II & III; 1st place solo spotlight men, freestyle 1&2, Class II & III.

Thom Mullins, 1st place solo artistic men, freestyle 3, Class I & II; 2nd place solo spotlight men, freestyle 3, Class I & II.

Christopher Sullivan, 1st place solo artistic men, freestyle 6, Class I; 1st place solo spotlight men, freestyle 6, Class I.

Harry Wing, 3rd place solo spotlight men, freestyle 6, Class II; 4th place solo artistic men, freestyle 6, Class II.

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# CDC: Prevention review panels may change

by Matthew S. Bajko

**A**gencies working in HIV prevention may soon find themselves battling a new attack on the work they do from conservative lawmakers.

For years, Republicans in Washington have questioned whether workshops addressing such topics as bondage, S&M, and ejaculation are sound prevention methods. The agencies that host these workshops have always countered that local review panels, as required by federal guidelines, have reviewed the workshop materials and deemed the forums appropriate prevention strategies.

Now the federal agency in charge of setting standards for these local review panels is examining how communities select members to sit on the panels. And it is opening a door for conservatives to argue that their views are not being taken into account by these local panels.

Dr. Julie Gerberding, the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has determined the agency needs to provide improved guidance about the membership of the program review panels.

"These panels are intended to represent a broad spectrum of the community, not narrow interest groups," wrote Gerberding in a letter last week sent to Representative Mark Souder (R-Indiana). "In addition, we learned that service on the [panels] is extremely time-consuming and at times burdensome for volunteers, a factor that may influence the pool of interested candidates."

The questions surrounding the review panel process stem from a

two-year battle between conservative lawmakers who questioned whether the Stop AIDS Project's intervention programs were scientifically sound. Stop AIDS officials stood by their programs, arguing not only did they adhere to federal standards but were appropriate strategies to engage gay men about how to protect themselves from HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

For now, Stop AIDS seems to have won the battle. After a team of CDC investigators conducted a review of the agency last August, and three researchers consulted by the federal agency reviewed the success of Stop AIDS efforts, "the team concluded that the design and delivery of Stop AIDS prevention activities was based on current accepted behavioral science theories in the area of health promotion," wrote Gerberding in her letter, dated February 13.

But the questions surrounding the local review panels could present problems for Stop AIDS and other agencies in the future. As Gerberding states in her letter, "these are generic issues that may affect all CDC-funded programs, not just those in San Francisco."

The letter is a cause for concern for Steven Tierney, the city's director of HIV prevention, who oversees the local review process in San Francisco. He said when the CDC investigators came last year, they focused much attention on how people are selected to sit on the panels.

"They asked us how would communities of faith find out and volunteer to be on the panel. We said to them that is a very good question," said Tierney. "There are no guidelines that say we have to represent the whole city, just those communities affected by the epi-

demic."

Currently, the city lists positions for the panels in the *Bay Area Reporter* and through announcements to nearly 50 community-based partners. As a result, Tierney said it is usually gay men who review programs for gay men, or injection drug users reviewing programs for other IDUs and so forth.

Given the new political realities in Washington, Tierney said it is possible the federal government could now require local jurisdictions to have people with various backgrounds and viewpoints sit on the panels.

"In terms of a concern, they recently had a prevention meeting in which the Eagle Forum and Concerned Citizens of America and the Family Research Council were all represented. Those groups come with a very specific, conservative, abstinence-only agenda," said Tierney. "Now that they are being invited to the table, would there be a call to make sure we represent all facets of the community and does that mean all religious and political mindsets?"

Such requirements could prove problematic for agencies working with gay men in more conservative communities. Considering the liberal leanings of San Francisco, it may not become problematic for local agencies.

"I think the ongoing problem is this: when they say represent the community we need to remind people in Atlanta that the community in San Francisco is very different than the community nationally," remarked Tierney. "People who live in San Francisco do so because it is a certain kind of environment. We believe the membership of the panel does represent the community." ▼

## Araujo hearing

◀ page 2

Brown said Jose Merel said, "I can't believe this. She pulled her pants half way down so I couldn't see nothing."

"He was just very upset," Brown said.

"Did Jose say if he touched other body parts," Campbell asked. "Lida's breasts?"

"No," Brown answered.

"Her grind area?" Campbell asked, plainly uncomfortable with the words.

"No," Brown answered.

During the conversation in the kitchen, there had been no noise from the bathroom where Araujo and Magidson had gone.

At the end of the conversation in the kitchen, the other defendants challenged Brown to go into the bathroom and find out Araujo's gender. "We'll go in there and do it mean if you don't do it nice," Brown said they told her.

"I thought they had the right to know if they'd had sexual contact with her, if she's a man or a female," Brown said.

Brown said she went to the bathroom door with the other defendants, knocked, and entered.

As the four defendants crowded into the bathroom, they challenged Brown to find out Araujo's sex.

"We'll hold her down and check ourselves, right here," Brown said they said.

"I spread her legs and grabbed

the grind area," Brown said. "She looked puzzled as I touched. I yelled 'It's a fucking man.'"

Brown said she fled the bathroom to try and report boyfriend Paul Merel, who was asleep in a bedroom down the hall.

"I see Jose walking back and forth in the hall, crying, very upset," Brown said.

"You can't do what you think you're going to do because you're going to get caught," she claimed she told Jose. "She doesn't deserve this. Any woman knows you, they're not going to think about this, they're going to think of you as the football player you are."

"He just looked scared," Brown added.

Brown said she tried to get Araujo out of the house.

"They're very angry. I think you should go now," she said she told Araujo.

Brown testified that Araujo made it out the door, but soon returned, followed by the other three defendants who were waiting outside and forced her back into the house.

Brown then related that Magidson beat Araujo on the floor of the hallway of the house, as the others tackled her.

Magidson had his arms around Araujo's waist and was grasping at her underwear.

"If I see balls," Brown claimed Magidson said, "if I see balls. What's this?"

Magidson then choked Araujo. "Mike got her by the neck and choked her," Brown said.

"She couldn't breathe," Brown said. "I screamed."

Emmanuel Merel, youngest of the three Merel brothers, awakened, came into the room and pulled Araujo out of Magidson's grip, Brown testified.

Brown went back into the bedroom, to try and awaken Paul Merel, but when she returned, she discovered Araujo alone on the couch in the living room, and she was later told, tied up.

She found Magidson in the hallway. Brown said he was shaking.

"His hands were in fists," Brown said. "His hands were shaking. They had blood on them."

Brown, Paul Merel, and Emmanuel Merel all left the house.

"Could you stop anything happening to Lida," Campbell asked.

"No," Brown answered.

"Why," Campbell asked.

"Scared," Brown answered.

But Brown said she and Paul Merel did circle the house after they left.

"What did you see?" asked Campbell.

"The truck leaving. Mike's truck," Brown said.

She drove up to Magidson's truck, where Nabors was also sitting. "Where are you going," Brown said she asked.

"We're going to get shovels," she said one of the pair answered. ▼

The preliminary hearing will continue this week.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### STATEMENT FILE 0263970-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Regney & Associates. 144 Putnam Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Tracy Gable and Joni L. Regney. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 01, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/24/2003.  
JAN. 30, FEB. 6, 13, 20, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0263938-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Faye & Anne Accessories. 1028 Stockton Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94108. This business is conducted by an individual signed Arlinda Tang. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/24/2003.  
JAN. 30, FEB. 6, 13, 20, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0263842-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Moving Finger Press. 369 Jersey Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114-3709. This business is conducted by an individual signed Steve Susoyev. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/21/2003.  
JAN. 30, FEB. 6, 13, 20, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0263850-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Altarex Productions. 4524 18th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Joseph N. Graham and William D. Parker. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 21, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/21/2003.  
JAN. 30, FEB. 6, 13, 20, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0263868-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: IDK, LLC. 1019 Union Street #1, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Ben D. Gardner, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 10, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/22/2003.  
JAN. 30, FEB. 6, 13, 20, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0263885-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: National Building Maintenance & Janitorial. 4320 Irving Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Larry Mak. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 22, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/22/2003.  
JAN. 30, FEB. 6, 13, 20, 2003

### STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 0251296-00

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Rogue Art Space. Located at: 4360 19th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business was conducted by a general partnership signed Kevin Grady and Mark S. Rubnitz. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: August 29, 2001.  
JAN. 30, FEB. 6, 13, 20, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0263998-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Real Techniques. 104 Maynard Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Francis Balmonite Dominguez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 27, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/27/2003.  
FEB. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0264103-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Excellent Affairs. 580 Mission Street Apt. 25(U), San Francisco, Ca. 94105-4037. This business is conducted by an individual signed Alex A. Cooper, Jr. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 29, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/29/2003.  
FEB. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0264039-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: New Fashion Design. 888 Brannan Street #259 San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Hyang Suk Oh. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 28, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/28/2003.  
FEB. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC-03-540573

In the Matter of the Application of Donna Cathy McCaskill For change of Name. The application of Donna Cathy McCaskill for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Donna Cathy McCaskill has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Donna Cathy Muir. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 24th day of March at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
FEB. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.CNC-03-540585

In the Matter of the Application of Sandra Caus For change of Name. The application of Sandra Caus for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Sandra Caus has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Sandra Emily Novak. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 07th day of April at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.  
FEB. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0264424-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: LaDove Associates. 1865 Sacramento Street, Suite #1, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Brett LaDove. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/10/2003.  
FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0264262-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Chai House. 608 Geary Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Rajendra C. Patel, manager. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/04/2003.  
FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0264143-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Embassy CES. 1910 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Rebecca Patterson, treasurer. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/13/2003.  
FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0264320-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Stephen Gifts & Inter Trade. 1848 Newhall Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Shaahua Gao. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 06, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/06/2003.  
FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0264130-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: MC Investment Of San Francisco. 40 Darrell Place #2, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by an individual signed Marianne C. Frank. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/30/2003.  
FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0264393-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Just For Jesus Ministries. 480 Ellis Street #428, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Nathaniel Cherry. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 10, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/10/2003.  
FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003

### STATEMENT FILE 0264070-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: J.W.A. Consulting. 1766 35th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by a general Partnership signed Noah Furman and Glenn Zischoltz. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/28/2003.  
FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003



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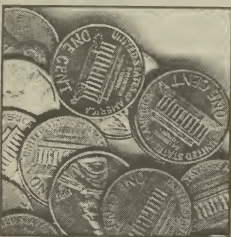
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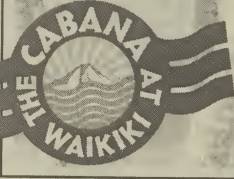
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## LEGAL NOTICES

## CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)  
FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR BAYVIEW TOWN CENTER

The Bayview Town Center Task Force of the City and County of San Francisco (a joint effort of the Mayor's Office of Economic Development, Redevelopment Agency, Unified School District, Bayview Opera House, Arts Commission, Public Library and Recreation and Parks Department) is seeking Statements of Qualifications from firms that are experienced with types of mixed-use, multi-purpose, arts and culture educational institutions to develop a conceptual design of the Bayview Town Center project.

Responses to the RFQ are due March 12, 2002 4:00 P.M. To obtain a copy of the RFQ please visit [www.sfgov.org/moed](http://www.sfgov.org/moed) or contact Deborah Lao at [Deborah.lao@sfgov.org](mailto:Deborah.lao@sfgov.org) or 415-554-6649.

## VACANCY NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 54974, California Government Code, notice is hereby given of the following unscheduled vacancies. Interested persons may obtain an application form from the Clerk of the Rules Committee, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102-4689. Completed applications should be submitted to the Clerk of the Board. All applicants must be residents of San Francisco, unless otherwise stated. Additional information and an application may be obtained by accessing the City's web site: [www.sfgov.org/bdsuprs](http://www.sfgov.org/bdsuprs)

Please Note: Depending upon the posting date, some vacancies may have already been filled. To determine if vacancies for this Board/Committee/Commission or Task Force are still available please call the Rules Committee Clerk at 554-5184.

## Urban Forestry Council

The Urban Forestry Council shall be comprised of 15 total members 8 of whom will be appointed by the Board of Supervisors as follows: one representative of the University of California Cooperative Extension or a representative of another educational organization involved with tree management; one representative of the tree management profession; one representative of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area; two representatives of non-profit organizations involved in urban forestry or other environmentally-related issues; and three representatives of the community.

Additionally members shall be appointed from 5 municipal agencies with representatives from: Director of the Department of Public Works; General Manager of the Recreation and Park Department; Director of the Planning Department; Director of the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency; and General Manager of the Public Utilities Commission. The Mayor shall appoint: one representative of the tree care industry and one at-large representative.

The Body that appoints Council members also may appoint at-large members to serve any unfilled Council positions. Members shall serve for a term of two years

SAN FRANCISCO HOUSING AUTHORITY INVITATION FOR BIDS  
SOLICITATION NO. 03-620-IFB-006

The Housing Authority will receive sealed bids for the Senior Center and Rainbow Center ADA Compliance Work at CAL 1-15, Ping Yuen, located in San Francisco.

Contract documents, including drawings and specifications are on file at San Francisco Housing Authority office located at 1815 Egbert Avenue, Suite 300, San Francisco, and will be available for inspection or issuance on, or after February 14, 2003.

On Thursday, February 27, 2003, at 10:00 a.m., a site inspection will be held at the Housing Development. Prospective bidders will meet at the gate to 795 Pacific, San Francisco. A pre bid conference will follow the site inspection to discuss any questions relating to this work.

All bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. (PST) and read aloud on the date of March 6, 2003. Questions regarding this solicitation for bids may be directed to Francis Eng, Senior Project Manager, at (415) 715-3267. Contact Carolina at (415) 715-3171 for contract documents.



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## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Valdez Elsa Isabel, Valdez Luis Phillip. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 2278 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. Type of license Applied for: 41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE  
**FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 13, 2003**

## STATEMENT FILE 0264491-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Hartle Media Ventures LLC, 59 Grant Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94108. This business is conducted by a husband and wife signed Tom Hartle and Heather Hartle. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/12/2003.  
**FEB. 20, 27, MAR. 6, 13, 2003**

## STATEMENT FILE 0264557-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Peanuts, 101 Spear Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94105. This business is conducted by an individual signed Vena Shotivayaratana. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/13/2003.  
**FEB. 20, 27, MAR. 6, 13, 2003**

## STATEMENT FILE 0264526-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: CMG Designs San Francisco, 428 8th Street #101 San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Cesar M. Guerra. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/13/2003.  
**FEB. 20, 27, MAR. 6, 13, 2003**

## STATEMENT FILE 0264486-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Golden Gun Investigations, 1320 18th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Richard Benjamin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 12, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/12/2003.  
**FEB. 20, 27, MAR. 6, 13, 2003**

## STATEMENT FILE 0264473-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Action Packed Studios, 64 Bonview Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110-5105. This business is conducted by an individual signed David Brian Hempling. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 02, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/11/2003.  
**FEB. 20, 27, MAR. 6, 13, 2003**

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Ragobta Kulidip Singh. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 3501 Mission Street San Francisco, Ca. 94110. Type of license Applied for: 41-ON- SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE  
**FEB. 20, MAR. 6, 13, 2003**

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Adventure Cat. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: Pier 39 J Dock San Francisco, Ca. 94133. Type of license Applied for: 54-ON- SALE GENERAL BOAT  
**FEB. 20, 2003**

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 0246176

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Chai House. Located at: 608 Geary Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business was conducted by an individual signed Kalpesh P. Patel. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: January 21, 2001.  
**FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003**

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 254619

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: usdirectmailing.com Located at: 574-39th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business was conducted by co-partners signed Wong Wai and Gerald Espanda. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: January 28, 2002.  
**FEB. 13, 20, 27, MAR. 6, 2003**



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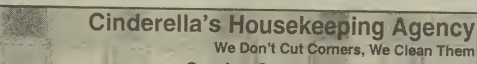
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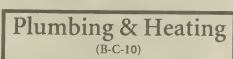


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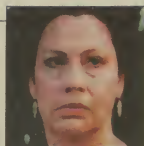
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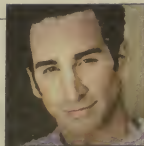


**Closeted gay man is blackmailed**  
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1961 thriller 'Victim,' now out on DVD.  
page 46

**Dowager rites**  
'Suddenly Last Summer'  
revived at Berkeley Rep.  
page 36



**Carmen Ghia lives**  
Actor Michael Paternostro  
on his gay 'Producers' role.  
page 31



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 33 • No. 8 • 20 February 2003

## Cries and whispers

Brash emotionalism,  
low-key charms in current  
SoCal museum shows by Glen Helfand

**F**inding the art of our deeply troubled and bound-to-become-more-anguished era is a problematic task. We're too close, yet we look to artists to somehow capture the zeitgeist. Two exhibitions in LA's West Side do this in opposite ways. Bill Viola offers slickly produced paeans to emotional pain at the Getty Center, while the Hammer offers a satisfying global survey of young artists working in the scrappy realm of drawing.

Though he works with high-end video, Viola is one of the most humanistic artists of our age. His technologically complex but timelessly earnest projects deal with the big stuff: life, death and spiritual quests. He's on record as being inspired by Persian poet-philosopher Rumi: classic, but not exactly hip. His recent, rather emotional works are currently showcased at the Getty, an art show that takes on event status with streetlight advertisement-banners posted miles away from the acropolis-like museum/research complex. Of course, nothing quite lives up to that kind of ad campaign.

Titled *The Passions*, the exhibition features a baker's dozen of recent pieces that explore the range of human emotions, though pain and anguish, so cursorily dealt with in US culture, emerge most memorably here. The pieces, pre-

sented in gorgeously crisp resolution on flat plasma screens of varying sizes — from imposing painting scale to snapshot-on-the-mantle size — feature actors emoting with thespian zeal.

"Six Heads" shows the face of a mature, bearded white man, times six, simultaneously expressing bemusement, pensiveness, consternation and spiritual ennui. Positioned on the wall label nearby is a figurative drawing from the Getty collection, of the kind of Renaissance artwork that Viola quotes here, and he does a good job of it. The six simultaneously active visages add up to a full picture of humanity.

Viola shows us variations on this theme, as he uses a range of film speeds and scales. "The Quintet of the Astonished" features a group of five actors flexing their chops as a huddled group. Posed against a black backdrop, they are happy, sad, and points between, and rendered in chiaroscuro lighting that's downright gorgeous. The trouble is, the piece seems so staid that it's difficult to empathize. A woman clutches her breast in teary grief, while a man comforts her from behind.

Towards the center, a man you might recognize as performance artist and actor John Fleck comes off like a major drama-queen, launching into Oscar-worthy silent screams. The the-

page 42 ►

'Surrender,' above,  
and 'Silent Mountain,'  
right, both by Bill Viola,  
from *The Passions*,  
currently at the J.  
Paul Getty Museum  
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# Anxious infidels

Tense days for hotties & noddies

by Roberto Friedman

We don't know what to worry about first: terrorists, North Korea, Iraq, Iran, war, W., the economy kicking the bucket, the dividend kickback, the plummeting stock market, or our deadline. How about if we worry about them all in one big, queer worry? The way our government goes on about stocking up on duct tape and gas masks, it's clear the only ones left standing after the war will be kinky S&M survivalists who already own all the right gear. You know who you are.

But we continue to go out and engage — only connect! — partly because we think the terror alerts are designed to frighten people into staying home and consuming, and partly because attending cultural events is what we do when we're feeling nervous.

Went to see *The Quiet American* at the Bridge, and yes, as the jaded London *Times* correspondent in Saigon, Michael Caine is deserving of that Oscar nom for Best Actor. As the title QA, Brendan Fraser is quite good, too, though perhaps, with shoulders as broad as the Mekong, too adorable for the part. War intrudes quite brutally in the film, set in '52 French Indochina, just as it does in real life. In a vivid scene of shock and carnage, a Saigon café is bombed. Soon a montage of newspaper headlines reports a barrage of US airstrikes, and we're right back to today's fresh hell of international crises.

Director Phillip Noyce's movie turns out to be an antiwar film in its own way, though its development predated the current climate, and the source novel by Graham Greene was published way back in 1955. But we saw in Fraser's portrayal of American bravura a sinister portent of our own age's war fever.



Michael Caine and Do Thi Hai Yen in Phillip Noyce's *The Quiet American*

### Heat wave

Reality TV continued its downward spiral to find its own level with last week's premiere of ABC's *Are You Hot? The Search for America's Sexiest People*.

"This is the show that cuts to the chase," promised host JD Roberto (no relation). Contestants, male and female, make the first cut by parading before non-celebrity judges, male and female, who quickly divide them into winners and losers.

This show is all about binary choices: players are either "Hot!" or "Not!"

In the second round, the contestants are numerically appraised for their faces, bodies, and sex appeal ("Face: 8. Bod: 7. Sex: 5.") Superficiality reigns supreme. It's exactly like the first 30 seconds you're in a gay bar, when you get the once-over from the crowd. Isn't it interesting that the habits and mores of gay culture have permeated straight society so pervasively?

But why not analyze world leaders using the sophisticated criteria of *Are You Hot?* OK, we will! French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin: Hot!

US Secretary of State Colin Powell: Not!

Unquiet Americans marching against war last weekend: so Hot!

The Bush and his best girlfriend Tony Blair: so Not!

### Spacey odyssey

Questions about his sexual orientation continue to dog actor

Kevin Spacey, long after that *Esquire* piece supposedly outed him. During a recent roundtable interview to promote his new film *The Life of David Gale*, an entertainment journalist asked Spacey, "How do you feel about those stories about you being gay?"

According to the *Toronto Star*, the star snapped back, "Don't bother me with that crap! Just mind your own fucking business! Next question!"

Spacey should know that "mind your own business" is rarely a satisfying answer to a reporter, even a junketing one. Why doesn't he just say there's no basis of fact in the rumors? Or come out? Whatever. Nothing he could do would ever compensate for being a party to *K-Pax*.

### Soul music

Tonight (Thurs., Feb. 20, 8 p.m.), A&E network presents **James Baldwin: Witness**, a biography of the great late African American author and civil rights activist. To its credit, the doc does not omit Baldwin's gay life, noting that it was gay artist Beauford Delaney who brought JB out from Harlem and into Greenwich Village, where he could explore his homosexuality.

The author of *Giovanni's Room* (1956) believed people were more fluid than the gay/straight binary. *Giovanni*, his second novel, set in Paris, defied expectations by concerning white characters in a gay love story.

James Baldwin was a wise soul we could use in America right now. He said, "Hate always destroys the man who hates." ▼



Author James Baldwin, captured in a fey pose while penning his essays.

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## THEATRE

# Kicking up the shtick

## Nabbing 'The Producers' best sissy part

by Richard Dodds

Just because you're gay doesn't mean you can always get in touch with your inner sissy.

"My sissy was horrible," Michael Paternostro said of his tryout for a role in Claudia Shear's *Dirty Blonde*. "When *The Producers* came along, it gave me another chance to go for broke."

This time, Paternostro worked alone for hours on his minces, swishes, and lisps. "I had a really hard time pulling it out," he said from Seattle. But this time, his sissy worked, and Paternostro was rushed into the touring company of *The Producers* to replace a recalcitrant actor in the role of Carmen Ghia.

In the hit Mel Brooks musical, opening March 5 at the Orpheum, Carmen Ghia is the "common law assistant" to Roger De Bris, the flaming queen hired to direct *Springtime for Hitler*. That, of course, is the musical within the musical that its scheming over-financed producers are hoping is a colossal flop. Roger Bart, who happens to be straight, created the role of Carmen Ghia on Broadway.

"I've seen some of the butchest guys in the world pull out the best inner sissy," Paternostro said. "What I do is very much an homage to what Roger did."

Not that Paternostro hasn't put his own mark on the role. A friend who had seen Paternostro's performance at the start of his tour recently saw it again. "He was, 'Oh my God, what are you doing out there? I'm guess I'm a shameless, greedy character actor.'"

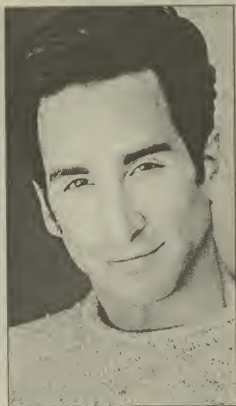
*The Producers* is the kind of show that allows an actor to kick up the shtick. "Comedy is the most slippery eel," Paternostro said. "You never know when a laugh that has been certain all along will die. It gives you the freedom to go out there, balls to wall, and just say, 'I have nothing to lose, because this moment is getting nothing.'"

Paternostro, comic character actor, had first headed to New York to be a dancer. The New Orleans native dropped out of Louisiana State University, and soon hooked up with summer stock and touring productions of *A Chorus Line*.

His biggest break as a dancer came in the Broadway company of *Fosse*, in which he was part of the trio that helped stop the show each night with its sharp rendering of "Steam Heat." "Fosse was an amazing experience for me," Paternostro said. "It was the opposite of *Sweet Smell*."

That would be *The Sweet Smell of Success*, last season's high-profile failure starring John Lithgow. "I turned down *Oklahoma!* to do *Sweet Smell*. Isn't that funny? I appreciated that it was doing different things, but when you were in it, you could see all the flaws."

Although Paternostro has passed on his chance to stay with *The Producers* for an extended run in Los Angeles after SF (he has a honey back in New York), he is having a ball because the audience is, too. "This is the boring part of the interview," he said, "but yes, the show is what they say. The au-



Paternostro: 'Some of the butchest guys pull out the best inner sissy.'

diences scream, they yell, they're out of their minds.

"We live in a society where, oy, you can't talk about this, you can't laugh about that. By the time we get to the gay scene — we're in Scene 7 — the show has ripped away the audience's guard. By the time they get to the purple townhouse and I'm in my lipstick, they're so ready to go there."



Lesbian novelist Emma Donoghue

### Vaudeville's lesbians

Celebrated Irish lesbian novelist Emma Donoghue (*Kissing the Witch, Slammerskin*) will be on

hand when *Ladies and Gentlemen* opens Feb. 22 at the Exit Theatre. Following the performance, Donoghue will offer an "intimate conversation" about her writings on gender and sexuality.

Gender is at the heart of *Ladies and Gentlemen*, receiving its West Coast premiere under the aegis of the Shee Theatre Company. Donoghue based her play on the story of Annie Hindle, vaudeville's first male impersonator, who eloped with her female stage-dresser. Dressed as a man, Hindle shared the stage with female impersonator Gilbert Saroney as part of Tony Pastor's legendary vaudeville troupe.

Virginia Reed is directing a cast that includes Jessie Gray, Laura Hope, Carrie Paff, Birdie Bob Watt, and Ross Duffy. Reed and Hope are founding members of the women-oriented Shee Theatre Company, most recently represented by *Augustine: Big Hysteria*.

*Ladies and Gentlemen* will run through March 15. Call 999-8870.

### Short scenes

San Francisco StageWorks is presenting Nicky Silver's *The Maiden's Prayer* as its inaugural production, opening March 6 at Venue 9. The 1998 comedy by the author of *Raised in Captivity* and *The Food Chain* looks at a recently married couple and their secret admirers of various sexuality. ACT acting teacher John Dixon is the director. Call 979-9980 for tickets.

Foothill Music Theatre is providing a rare chance to see the seldom-staged *On the Twentieth Century*. The 1978 Betty Comden-Adolph Green-Cy Coleman musical runs Feb. 21-March 16 at the Foothill College Studio Theatre in Los Altos. Call (650) 949-7414.

March 5 is the LGBT "Out with ACT" performance of *The Dazzle* by Richard Greenberg, also the author of Broadway's gay baseball drama *Take Me Out*. A meet-the-cast reception at the Geary Theater will follow the performance of Greenberg's study of two eccentric brothers living in Harlem. Mention "Out with ACT" when purchasing tickets (749-2228). ▼

Richard Dodds can be reached at [BARstage@aol.com](mailto:BARstage@aol.com).



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# Delectable diversions

## Pleasures of SF Ballet's Program III

by Stephanie von Buchau

**S**an Francisco Ballet is on a roll — with mustard and relish. Subscription Program III is like a giant deli sandwich, hunks of meat and cheese (sorry, vegetarians; Program II is your lunch) with peppers, olives and other good things to munch on. True, the program started Thursday night with a severely underrehearsed "Allegro Brillante," Balanchine, especially in his swift and fussy 1950s mode, is fatal when danced uncertainly.

Only the unflappable Julie Diana was up to Mr. B's incredible changes of direction, balances on a dime and lyrical arms. Everybody else looked mechanical, in that tired old SFB manner that used to make me hate Balanchine until Helgi Tomasson and Bonnie Bourne got here and cleaned up SFB's act. (In fact, I would suggest flying the redoubtable Ms. Bourne in for a week of instructing the boys how to "dress." Does "Torrado" mean "cantalupe" in Spanish?)

The other problem with "Allegro" was the SFB Orchestra, not always operating well under guest conductor Andrew Mogrelia. The opening bars were so dissonant that I did a double-take — surely this ballet is set to Tchaikovsky, not Stravinsky? (While we're on the subject, I had trouble with the music to Tomasson's "Concerto Grosso" at the Gala because it was played so badly I thought it was a modern "take" on Corelli via

Geminiani. Thursday night, presumably after more rehearsal, it sounded properly baroque.)

The injured Jaime Garcia Castilla was missed in "Concerto Grosso," though corps member Jonathan Mangosing filled in valiantly. The other four men in this high-testosterone exercise were the same, only better. Pascal Molat, in red (costumes credited by Sandra Woodall), is a sight to behold. Not only does he qualify as a 10 on the Hunkometer, but he does stuff in the air that nobody that thick should be able to do — and I use the word "thick" in the surliest possible sense.

We had hardly recovered from that heart-stopping ballet when the evening's premiere, Christopher Wheeldon's "Polyphonia," raised the temperature another 50 degrees. I missed last season's "Continuum" (and can now hardly wait to see it on Program VII), but I do have hideous memories of Wheeldon's first piece for SFB, the cornball "Sea Pictures," in which a weepy Joanna Berman threw herself off a cliff, but not soon enough.

We must assume that was an anomaly, and that Wheeldon's superior reputation as a dancemaker — he's New York City Ballet's "choreographer in residence" — is honestly earned. It is certainly earned by "Polyphonia," set to piano miniatures by Gyorgy Ligeti, rhythmically played by Michael McGraw. For such a rigorous ballet — difficult music, purple costumes, ensemble cast

— "Polyphonia" proves remarkably glamorous, at least with Yuan Yuan Tan and Yuri Possokhov as the couple in two steamy duets.

### Killing beauty

If you've been reading me regularly for the last decade, you know that I blow hot and cold about Possokhov. He's strong and he's beautiful (he's also a highly sophisticated musical and choreographic talent), but I've never enjoyed him as the "Prince," probably because he gives off too many intellectual and ironic vibes. It almost seems like he'd rather kill the silly widget he's dancing with than romance her — which is why his murderous professor in "The Lesson" is such a perfect fit.

In Wheeldon's piece, partnering the ineffable Tan, Possokhov gives a performance as powerful as his work in Balanchine's "Symphony in Three Movements," the best thing I've ever seen him do. I think the guy is just so smart he needs a real musical challenge, like Stravinsky or Ligeti. He gets it in the difficult counts and sensational geometry of Wheeldon's pas de deux. With Tan submissive and pliant, yet also godlike and otherworldly, Possokhov is the master manipulator.

His huge hands are all over her thighs, armpits, waist and butt, twisting her into the most flexible Kama Sutra-like positions. You find yourself sighing and gasping at Wheeldon's sensual inventions, yet they are never vulgar or obvious in the Gerry Arpino or



Yuan Yuan Tan and Yuri Possokhov

Michael Smuin mode. It is sublimated sex of the gods (or gymnasts), her every line ravishingly beautiful, his straining biceps exposed in a purple muscle shirt.

The other couples in "Polyphonia" — Diana and stalwart Ruben Martin; Kristin Long and Zachary Hench; and especially Lorena Feijoo and Gonzalo Garcia in a cheerful waltz — certainly "get it," but they pale next to the Titanic pairing of Tan and Possokhov. It'll be interesting — no, mandatory — to see this work again with a different cast.

The program ends with the triple-threat Possokhov's Medea ballet, "Damned," which looked

very different last year with Joanna Berman and Roman Rykine. She was noble and he weaselly, which gave the piece a more human dimension. Muriel Maffre is hieratic and Pierre-Francois Vilanova handsome but bland, not a bad characterization of Jason, but not as vibrant as Rykine's. (I forgot last week to note that Rykine was another major loss, a dancer who was only promising when Tomasson imported him, but who departed a star.)

Mogrelia finally got his act together in the pit with the Ravel that cleverly accompanies "Damned." Roy Bogas played the "Concerto for the Left Hand." ▼

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## MUSIC

# Russian kisses

## Ovations for Mstislav Rostropovich, SFS

by Philip Campbell

The title of living legend is increasingly overused, but certain individuals have led such fascinating and accomplished lives that no other name will do. In the world of serious music, Mstislav Rostropovich is one such deserving giant.

Known lovingly as "Slava" by friends and colleagues, Rostropovich is more than a famous cellist and conductor. His consummate artistry has inspired a virtual Who's Who of modern composers, and his performances will always rank high in the memory of countless listeners. Additionally, his courageous championing of human rights has placed him in the front ranks of world freedom-fighters. He has risked much over the years to secure the liberty of fellow artists and compatriots.

For the last two weeks, concertgoers at the San Francisco Symphony have been privileged by his presence at Davies Hall. The programs were predictably satisfying musically, and they proved uncommonly exciting as well. The repertoire was diverse and interesting, but the results packed an emotional wallop that may have come as a surprise to the uninitiated. The feeling of transcendence was, more likely, a foregone conclusion to others.

There are many amusing stories about Rostropovich's sly sense of humor and occasionally outrageous antics. Perhaps that's why he chose a brief and humorous Fanfare dedicated to him by Henri Dutilleul to open his first series of concerts, and an equally witty Overture by Leonard Bernstein to open the next.

"Slava's Fanfare" is over in a twinkling, but not before a quotation from Dvorak's Cello Concerto (a signature piece for Rostropovich) is gleefully quashed by three piccolos, positioned with other players in the small ensemble throughout the hall. Written as a 70th birthday salute in 1977, the Fanfare served as the perfect curtain-raiser for Prokofiev's delightful Symphony No. 1, *Classical*.

We never tire of the lemony tang of Prokofiev's melodious score, but the maestro made it appear freshly minted. The bowing of the violins in the first movement and the wonderfully audible passagework by the viola section brought new appreciation for the composer's inspired tribute to Mozart and Haydn.

The real meat and potatoes of the concert was to be found in the much longer second half. Shostakovich's remarkable Symphony No. 8 in C minor, Opus 65 was misunderstood and unfairly criticized by Soviet authorities in 1943, but 60 years have passed, and even the initial philistinism of the Communists has been reversed.

We know our Mahler now, and Shostakovich's emotionally charged, often agonizing statement makes perfect sense in the context of modern society. On the eve of what may well prove to be a cataclysmic war, the Eighth Symphony is more timely than ever.

The opening Adagio, given the conductor's considerable understanding, was almost unbearably moving. Another great conductor, Serge Koussevitzky, said, "The power of its human emotion sur-



Rostropovich has risked much to secure the liberty of his fellow artists.

passes everything else created in our time." His point is arguable, but Rostropovich and his dedicated players certainly made a convincing case.

By the time we had journeyed to the sad and hesitantly hopeful conclusion, there was an air of moving acceptance in the hall. Maybe, just maybe, Shostakovich was right when he said, "All that is beautiful will triumph."

### Panache attack

Last week, Slava concluded his visit with a slam-bang Tchaikovsky Fifth, with gorgeously refined playing by all members of the orchestra, and featuring some virtuosic solos.

Bernstein's "Slava! A Political Overture" got the evening off to a rollicking start. Lots of ragtime and Broadway panache (even a crib from his own Overture to *Candide*) comes together to celebrate Rostropovich's inaugural concert as leader of the National Symphony Orchestra in 1977 (he held the post for 17 seasons).

That premiere event came at a difficult time in Rostropovich's career, back when the world press was still calling him a "Soviet dissident." One would never guess at the troubling nature of the times hearing this uproarious confection. The conductor demanded an all-American program for the occasion (all-Bernstein, to be exact).

Last week's concert did not continue in that vein. Instead, another work written for Rostropovich by another musical titan, Benjamin Britten, followed, the Symphony for Cello and Orchestra, Opus 68.

With Rostropovich conducting rather than playing, cellist Steven Isserlis essayed the solo part. His performance was excellent, but could not help suffering in comparison to memories of the maestro's more dramatic approach.

The Cello Symphony is a mostly dark score that doesn't cheer up until the final pages, but it is characteristic of Britten's brilliant and subtle orchestrations, and packs a satisfying cumulative punch. Isserlis was by turns intense and introspective, earning Russian kisses from the conductor and three curtain calls.

The Tchaikovsky Fifth proved, unexpectedly, to be the perfect finale for Slava's visit. With great suavity and concentration, he made the old warhorse sound as

romantic as the Rachmaninoff of the piano concertos, and as passionate as the Wagner of *Tristan und Isolde*.

This is a tradition of music-making that recalls the golden years, before the suits took over classical music, when a performance of an old favorite could suddenly set a new standard. Mstislav Rostropovich is a living legend, indeed, and he deserves every bravo we can shout while he is still with us. ▼

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# A gay concerto, a festival in Baghdad

## Violinist Vadim Repin and conductor Valery Gergiev out on new CDs

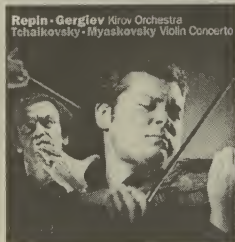
by Tim Pfaff

CD collectors don't want the record companies to be in trouble any more than dope addicts want their dealers busted. But alert collectors have to wonder at the machinations of an industry that constantly cries poor while making baffling artistic decisions with seemingly clear business ramifications. Take, for example, DG's release last year of two new CDs of the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto, both with unknown young violinists.

Start with the fact that this is hardly an under-recorded work. Add to that the likelihood that anyone who might be in the target market already has at least one CD of the concerto and more likely both a "classic" version and, for modern sound (and much more), Maxim Vengerov's magnificent account with the Berlin Philharmonic under Claudio Abbado, which leaves nothing to want.

Deepening the mystery, DG seems to have seen no need to promote either of the two new entrants into the fray, Leslie Garrett and Ilya Gringolts. This isn't exactly a marketing come-hither.

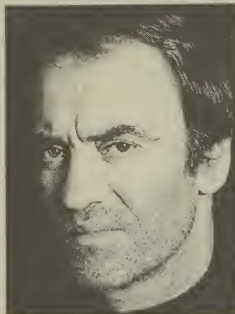
Now DG's parent company, Universal Music, has issued another Tchaikovsky Concerto, with the admittedly more appealing combination of Vadim Repin and Valery Gergiev, two musicians who need no introduction to au-



diences today. And it pairs the Tchaikovsky with the 1938 Nikolai Myaskovsky Violin Concerto (premiered by David Oistrakh), which suddenly has some currency since Richard Taruskin's recent New York Times feature on the recordings of all of the forgotten composer's 27 symphonies. Even so, the new CD is optional.

It's *de rigueur*—but inaccurate—to accord Repin the highest, unqualified praise. While there's plenty to admire in his fiddling, it's always seemed to me that the Siberian-born virtuoso has cultivated the extremes of his technique (speed, mostly) at the expense of more core musical values.

Driving his splendid Kirov Orchestra hard, Gergiev leads a hell-bent-for-leather performance that proposes a considerably more urgent piece of music than this concerto, wonderful on its own, more orthodox terms, is. Repin responds with spitfire playing that's



Maestro Valery Gergiev: hell-bent

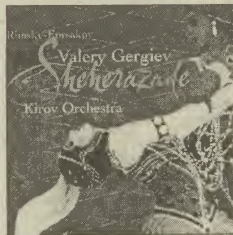
viscerally exciting but does not reward close listening. Ill-tuned double-stops, uneven tonal production, unsteady high notes and too many out-and-out clinkers are the predictable results of this overheated reading. His style is better suited to the overwrought Myaskovsky concerto, which I predict will be programmed off most listeners' subsequent listenings.

The reason to get this CD is its liner note, by Andrew Huth, which provides a succinct history of the composition of the Tchaikovsky Concerto that, without mentioning the composer's homosexuality, makes it amply clear that it was inspired by and created for a young man who saved him from the despair of his

failed (and very brief) marriage. Don't miss it.

### Pure persuasion

While even Gergiev has not been able to convince me that Rimsky-Korsakov is a composer of the front rank, his consistently persuasive readings of the composer's music (mostly the operas) have increased my appreciation of their genuine virtues (and made my fondness for them seem less like lazy, even guilty, pleasures). Of all Gergiev's purely instrumental recordings with his Kirov Orchestra, none has been such a great and consistent success as his arresting account of the composer's four-movement legend, *Sheherazade*, on a new CD of Russian Orientalia that also includes Borodin's "In the Steppes of Central Asia" and an orchestral (ballet) version of Balakirev's famous piano solo "Islamey."



Violinist Sergei Levitin gets richly deserved credit for his sensuous solo contributions to this musical meditation on the *Arabian Nights* stories, in which the violin may represent the fabled, eponymous storyteller herself. But his musicianship doesn't surpass that of his colleagues, who together hand in one of the most stunning pieces of orchestral playing in recent memory. The last of Rimsky's purely orchestral works, and the precursor to the operas, the 1888 *Sheherazade* was staged by Diaghilev in his 1910 Ballets Russes season in Paris. Gergiev, probably the supreme ballet conductor of our time, captures its color and rhythms with almost overwhelming acuity.

Orchestra-playing couldn't get more vivid than this without los-



Nijinsky in Diaghilev's Sheherazade

ing control, and Gergiev keeps things right where he likes them: on the edge. That doesn't rule out sensitivity. The obvious love story of the third-movement "Young Prince and Princess" is almost unbearably tender and lyrical, and doesn't short the music's overtly sexual strains.

The musical *coup de theatre*, however, is the explosive final movement (however ironically, "Festival at Baghdad." The brass blare, but with smart-bomb precision, and the massed strings slice huge slabs of sound out of palpable but hardly thin air. It's ecstatic music that withholds nothing—but all in the name of the most overwhelming and involving beauty.

The imminent Baghdad festival (if it's not already going on by the time you read this) will surely be no less impressive, but a grim dance of death instead of the convulsion of life forces Gergiev unleashes in this utterly remarkable recording. ▼

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## FILM

# Joy ride through David Lynchland

## Classic '80s art-film 'Blue Velvet' plays the Castro Theatre

by David Lambie

I don't know if you're a detective or a pervert." "That's for me to know and you to find out." Sandy Williams (Laura Dern doing one of her smoothest high-wire acts: the good girl sharing the front seat of a red convertible, minus a bra) is getting a little wet for Jeffrey Beaumont (Kyle MacLachlan, his black suit and a tiny gold earring giving him the off-kilter aura of someone who's answered one of those TV ads for the Academy of Art) in the first act of the greatest film released in America during the Reagan Administration.

Noir to the core, yet a completely original oedipal comedy, David Lynch's *Blue Velvet* is a B movie only when you're trying to find it at the videotore. A work of true genius by one of the rare film artists who is able to channel his unconscious without pretense, *Blue Velvet* is an art film that doesn't thumb its nose at the mainstream, by a filmmaker who's been trying to live it down (or live up to its promise) ever since.

Returning from college to Lumberton (whose radio-station, WOOD, reminds listeners to get

out their chainsaws) after a stroke tells his dad, Jeffrey finds a severed ear in a field near his parents' home. Jeffrey takes the ear in a brown-paper bag to Lumberton's chief homicide detective Williams (George Dickerson).

"Coming home from the hospital... I found an ear." "You did. A human ear?" "Yeah. I thought I should bring it to you." "That's right. Let's take a look at it. Yes, that's a human ear alright. Let's take it down to the coroner's office and see what they make of it. Then I want you to show me exactly where you found it."

The scene plays like Pat O'Brien meets the Talking Heads: the '50s are speaking directly to the '80s, as if the '60s and '70s never happened, had been snipped out of time like that ear detached from its still-living head. The result is intentionally if oddly hilarious; we'll later be grateful for the laughs. For its humor alone, *Blue Velvet*, one of the Castro's biggest '80s hits — this time, don't hold out for the DVD — should be seen there again with a large, sweaty crowd.

### Dangerous affair

Over cokes at the malt shop, Jeffrey sweet-talks Sandy into playing

Nancy Drew to his Frank Hardy, so they can spy on a mysterious chanteuse, Dorothy Vallens (Isabella Rossellini), who sings faux jazz at the Slo Club (a roadhouse dive that would be more at home in Hell's Kitchen than in North Carolina posing as logging country) and is having a dangerous affair with a serious madman, Frank Booth (Dennis Hopper). Frank, who cut off the ear and is holding its former owner and Dorothy's child hostage to compel Dorothy to perform a bizarre ritual that mixes sex, torture and mayhem, is in Hopper's hands a uniquely horrible and fully human creature, the embodiment of Freud's worst fears, who puts all previous movie monsters to shame.

It's Lynch's unique achievement to have us view Frank through Jeffrey's eyes, as if life's most dangerous knowledge could be had spying on one's parents. The movie's pivotal 22-minute sequence, climaxing in the beating and symbolic rape of Jeffrey by Frank, takes Jeffrey on a "joy ride" that mimics every stage of an adolescent's struggle for autonomy and independence from the parental bond, in a nightmare tableau of sights and sounds. Lynch imitates *Raging Bull*'s demented collage of animal noises, and puts them to even more fiendish use.

Frank and Jeffrey are a study in contrasts: Frank is the raging Id ("I'll fuck anything that moves,") while Jeffrey strives to be the Superego: "Why are there people



Why so blue? Isabella Rossellini as Dorothy Vallens in *Blue Velvet*.

like Frank? Why is there so much trouble in this world?"

In *Blue Velvet*, homoeroticism ceases to be subtext and gets to run in a mad cesspool, along with the world's oddest beer-tasting competition and Roy Orbison look-alike contest. If the film is Lynch's greatest hit, it's probably because its inspired lunacy is so

perfectly focused in two brilliantly conceived screen characters. MacLachlan and Hopper should both receive career Oscars for rendering two of the greatest American archetypes: the good boy trying to outrun the bad daddy, while the whore and the Madonna nervously await the outcome. Lumberton 'R' Us. ▼

# Stars of the Paris Opera Ballet

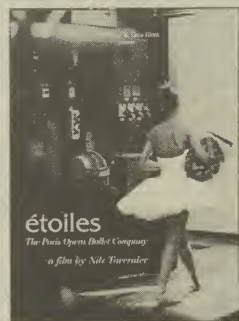
by Stephanie von Buchau

Last December, San Francisco Ballet's Helgi Tomasson was invited to serve on the Paris Opera Ballet's annual promotion jury. This strictly regulated company, which exchanged performances with SFB a few years ago, advances its dancers according to strict guidelines, from the lowliest *quadrille* to the loftiest *etoile* (or star). Sometimes *etoiles* get a battlefield promotion when they have given a spectacular performance, but usually the grind through the ranks is slow and not inevitable.

Nils Tavernier (son of filmmaker Bertrand) has produced a superior documentary based on these rigid ballet rankings. *Etoiles: Dancers of the Paris Opera Ballet* was shot in three months in 1999 and released in 2000. It plays at Landmark's Opera Plaza Cinema in San Francisco for one week only, February 21-27. If you were smitten when POB performed *La Bayadere* and *Le Parc* at the War Memorial (and if you weren't, you need an EKG), or even if you have only a glancing interest in ballet, I urge you to see this poetic 99-minute movie.

For one thing, unlike those dreary ballet documentaries one sees on PBS, the interviews are not softball questions followed by barely literate answers. Tavernier is interested in the spirituality, passion, jealousy and ambition inherent in this art form. He asks hard questions, and he gets astonishingly candid answers. The very young *quadrilles* and *sujets* are heartbreakingly beautiful in their desire to succeed, and their acknowledgment of what a difficult road they've chosen.

One experienced male dancer comments on the irony of finally learning what it all means, just as



his physical talents begin to wane. A retired dancer says cruelly about the POB school, one of the world's oldest and greatest, "The system is a machine that crushes the weak."

Two choreographers — Maurice Bejart and Jiri Kylian — also offer commentary on the school and the company. But the movie is not only talking heads. At least half of it is filmed dance, classes, rehearsal or actual performances. There is enough footage to whet our appetites for Bejart's *Beethoven's Ninth Symphony*, performed in the round. (Remember when his company was a regular visitor to UC Berkeley's Cal Performances, with works based on Mahler and Stockhausen?)

We also witness the retirement of *etoile* Elisabeth Patel after 24 years in the POB; enjoy watching the company's tough female bosses — Claude Bessy (director of the school) and Brigitte Lefevre (director of the company) — at work; and hear from current and former *etoiles* Manuel Legris, Patrice Bart, Aurelie Dupont and Ghislaine Thesmar. The loneliness, beauty, sacrifice, dedication, competition and fulfillment of a career in dance at this level is gracefully articulated in *Etoiles*. ▼

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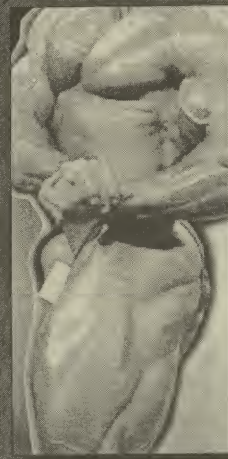


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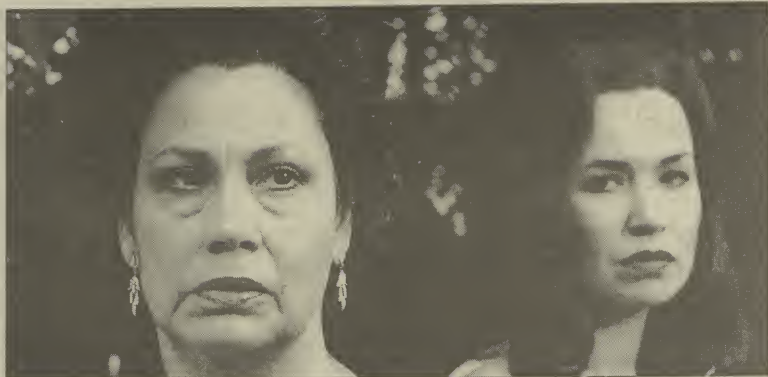
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Randy Danson and Michelle Duffy in Berkeley Rep's production of Tennessee Williams' *Suddenly Last Summer*

## Sparse flowers in an empty hothouse

'Suddenly Last Summer' at Berkeley Rep

by Richard Dodds

The image that Tennessee Williams often conjured of New Orleans might be called "decaying fecundity." In the case of *Suddenly Last Summer*, many a plant store has gotten program credits for helping foliate the sets of hundreds of productions of the 1958 play. At Berkeley Rep, however, director Les Waters has taken the bold if risky step of placing *Suddenly Last Summer* in an environment sterile enough to be an operating room.

In one way, the choice makes sense, because an operation — a lobotomy, in fact — is the dramatic sword hanging over the play. In Annie Smart's set, the garden room of imperious New Orleans dowager Violet Venable has become a vast empty hothouse holding at bay the oversized foliage painted on towering panes of glass.

New imagining of well-worn plays is a good thing, but for me,

who spent many years in New Orleans regularly reviewing productions of *Suddenly Last Summer*, Waters' languid yet austere approach runs counter to the essence of the play. Rather than creating an enhancing friction, the choice seems to diminish the fungal power of this single-act drama.

For the American theater in the 1950s, *Suddenly Last Summer* was a bold acknowledgment of homosexuality, but it was hardly a positive one. Though we never see Sebastian Venable, whose death precedes and provokes the events of the play, we hear detailed reports of his arrogant use of pliant relatives and disposable sexual partners.

Mrs. Venable, a dark reflection of Oscar Wilde's Lady Bracknell, is a mother so committed to defending the memory of her son Sebastian that she is willing to bribe a doctor to perform a lobotomy on a niece who knows the lurid reality of his death. This is a tightly wound woman of regal bearing, but, in the role, Randy Danson

suggests a blowzy woman, something akin to a latter-day Joan Blondell on a bad-hair day.

As Catherine, the traumatized niece, Michelle Duffy creates a character of contemporary naturalness and high-strung charm. But Joey Collins is almost comically wimpy as the doctor who may cut away a piece of Catherine's brain. Anne Darragh and T. Edward Webster are effective as the greedy relatives, precursors to Sister Woman and Gooper in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.

As the years and decades pass, and with the once-shocking aspects of Tennessee Williams' plays now tame, new ways will be found to bring his words to life. This production of *Suddenly Last Summer* makes a wrong move in the right direction. ▼

**Suddenly Last Summer will run at Berkeley Rep through March 23. Tickets are \$42-\$54. Call (510) 647-2949.**

## Wilde life

'The Importance of Being Oscar' revived

by Richard Dodds

In 1960, three decades after he co-founded Dublin's legendary Gate Theatre with his lifetime partner Hilton Edwards, Micheal mac Liammoir began spreading the saga of the man who died blazing the trail for such domestic unions as his. But in 1960, it's not surprising that mac Liammoir was circumspect in the details of Oscar Wilde's downfall. But then again, *The Importance of Being Oscar* is as much about celebrating the words of Wilde as it is about chronicling his life outside the theater.

The one-man show was also a celebration of mac Liammoir, whose talents as a performer were showcased in extended scenes with multiple characters from Wilde's plays and other writings. Wilde Irish Productions and Central Works, two small Bay Area companies, have teamed to present a rare revival of *The Importance of Being Oscar* built around Arthur Scappaticci's ambitious



Arthur Scappaticci as Oscar Wilde

but inconsistent performance.

In intimate confines at the Berkeley City Club, Scappaticci has his best moments in the bitter anguish of Wilde's prison letter to his beloved Bosie, and there is also dramatic intensity in the actor's condensed version of *The Picture*

of *Dorian Gray*. But Scappaticci is considerably less effective at delivering the comedy in scenes from *An Ideal Husband* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. His impersonation of Lady Bracknell from the latter is particularly thin, and, in these moments, the project begins to feel foolhardy.

In recent years, there has been a spate of productions dealing frankly with the woes of Wilde, most notably Moises Kaufman's *Gross Indecency*, so the history in mac Liammoir's play is well-trod. Nor does one have to look far for invigorating productions of Wilde's plays, and the excerpts here can feel redundant. But ultimately, the art and life of Oscar Wilde (he claimed they were one and the same) are epochal drama that can't be undermined, even when its interpreter isn't fully up to the task. ▼

**The Importance of Being Oscar will run at the Berkeley City Club through March 23. Tickets are \$8-\$20: (510) 558-1381.**

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## BOOKS

# Ten years of orgasms

Susie Bright's 'Best American Erotica' series hits a landmark

by Brandon Judell

In 1993, *Home Improvement* was the #1 show, Clinton messed up on gays in the military, and *Mrs. Doubtfire*, after setting her falsies aflame, noted: "My first day as a woman, and I am already having hot flashes." More important to some was the debut that year of Susie Bright's *The Best American Erotica*. This month, the 10th anniversary edition hits bookstores.

This groundbreaking series from Touchstone gathers gay, straight, transgender, lesbian, truck driver, housewife, and bear sex stories annually, under one cover. Some have very odd titles, such as, "On the Dangers of Simultaneity, Or, Ungh, Mmmm, Oh-Baby-Yeah, Aaah, Oooh ... Uh-Oh!" Some are more basic, such as, "Ropeburn."

Many of the contributors are respected prize-winners for their other work. Michael Bronski has won the Lammy, Samuel R. Delaney received the Nebula, Marge Piercy bagged a Pushcart Prize, and Charles Flowers has bragged he was honored with "the 'Most Christian Day student' award for my leadership of the Missionary Committee." As for vocations, some are sex workers for hire, some are waiters and cooks, 56% in one survey admitted to being teachers, and one served in the Israeli Defense Forces.

That wasn't Ms. Bright

(www.susiebright.com). She was too busy writing and editing 19 books on sexuality to carry a gun in Haifa, but not too busy to answer some questions on sex, especially on whether erotica has changed in the last decade.

"Yes," she insists, "erotic lit has changed more since the '80s than at any other time since the Beatniks broke the dirty-word barrier. Gay and feminist writers started approaching erotica differently in the last 20 years, in what some might call a 'postmodern' style, and others might just call 'catching up to reality.' People used to think of erotica as *Penthouse Letters* stories about naughty delivery boys or British spanking fantasies, or, at its best, Boyd MacDonald's rough-trade confessions.

"But," Bright continues, "contemporary erotic lit is very complex dramatically. It uses sex, explicit sex, to develop the plot and characters from beginning to end. It ends up being a story about something else, one that uses sex to tell its tale."

## Down to the mat

AIDS, too, has had its effect on mattress literature. "Oh sure," she notes. "In the early days, it tended to be pretty didactic, quite moralistic, about using condoms, or grief and loneliness. But then writers inevitably started being subversive about all the sacred totems of AIDS. I think one of the big breakthroughs was the 'zine *Diseased Pariah News*. You just



Susie Bright ponders her future.

died laughing reading it, and it was all about dying. Sentimentality and morality get their asses kicked in the best gay erotic literature. Gay writers are still writing about AIDS, but they tend less to be AIDS stories *per se*, and more about life, which, of course, includes AIDS."

In the end, would Bright call her collection more cerebral than lusty, or vice versa? "No to both," she insists. "I wouldn't call the two extremes cerebral vs. lusty. There are stories in *Best American Erotica* that will make some people cry

and scare the bejesus out of others. There's some very romantic moments and other kinds of poignant episodes that would be hard to quantify cerebrally. I pick stories for their emotional and sexual impact. Well-written sex makes people think, and so, in that sense, if I get anyone off, that's also my cerebral mission accomplished."

Jack Fritscher, who received his doctorate in America Literature from Loyola University and went on to become the groundbreaking editor of *Drummer* magazine, contributes to the current edition a story entitled "Three Bears in a Tub." It's all about a rural, extremely hairy young man who doesn't wear any clothes. In the past, he had impregnated a young woman twice, raped her father in self-defense, and now has sex with his two grown sons, who are also extremely hairy. If that isn't enough, this comic five-page story is one sentence long, quite possibly the longest sentence ever written. Take that, Proust. Fritscher admits it's his tribute to Faulkner.

But is it porn or erotica? "I really think that's just semantics," Fritscher avows. "It just depends to whom you are talking. If you want to discuss it with a church group, you'll call it erotica. If you want to talk to a convocation of lesbians and gays at a gay center, you call it porno or porn. I think, by the way, that the essence of gay literature and gay art probably is its erotic quality. To me, every-

thing that we do is set apart from everything that's straight by the fact that it is erotic."

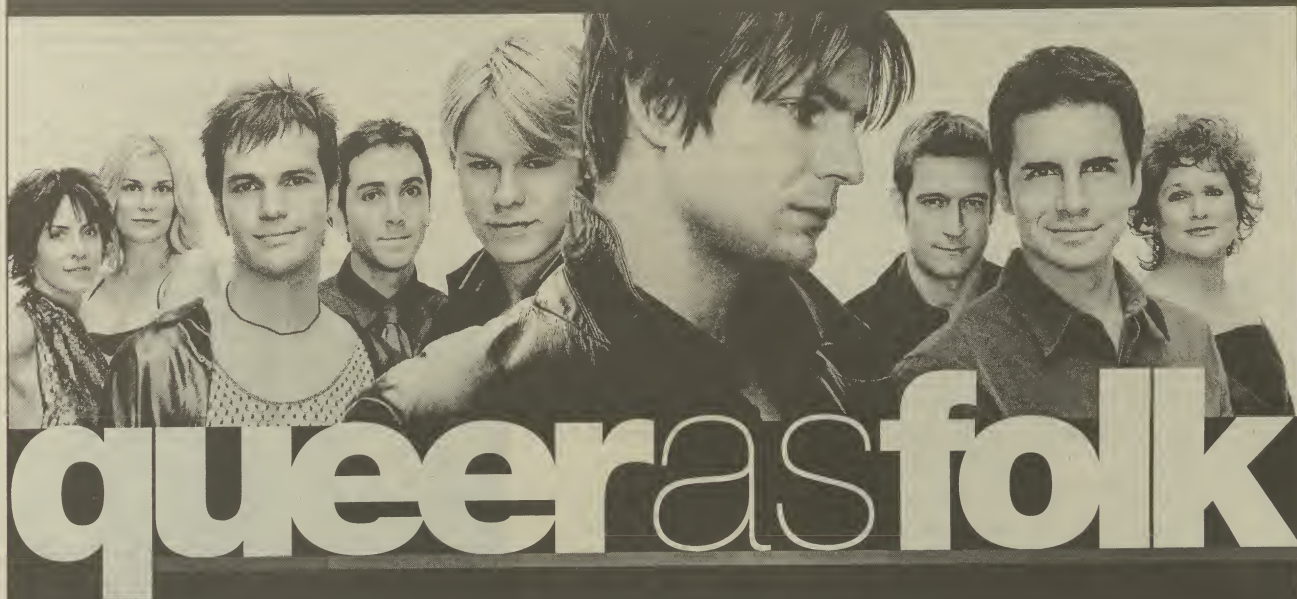
## Mohawk love

Martha Miller, a Midwestern lesbian and author of *Skin to Skin: Erotic Lesbian Love Stories*, contributed "The Baby-Sitter" to this year's edition. Here Cory, a young woman, comes home early one night to find her husband committing oral sex on their sitter. Upset, she hires a 200-lb. woman with a Mohawk to replace her. This solid gal eventually teaches Cory's son to play baseball and Cory the pleasures of female-to-female copulation.

"It seems like lesbians are really drawn to erotica as opposed to porn," Martha shared the other day over the phone. To her, porn and erotica are two different animals. "An erotic story has to be more than just the sex act. The sex act can't be gratuitous. It's also difficult to write, because the English language doesn't accommodate women making love to each other. You kind of have to invent the words, or coin new ones or use old ones in a different way."

To find out how she succeeds, or to read about the pleasures of having sex with a four-month pregnant mother, or about a busboy who's initiated into bondage by a hunky hired killer, or if you just want to read some fine writing by Dorothy Allison, *The Best American Erotica 2003* is here to cum. I mean stay. ▼

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# OUT & ABOUT



"Return to Paradise," oil on wood, 14" x 18" by Jorge Natividad, part of "Negotiated Innocence" opening in San Jose at Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana (MACLA). See Friday.

## Calendare by Mark Mardon

### Art, not war

I can't help noticing how artful anti-war/pro-peace protesters have become. Without the corporate sponsorship enjoyed by official parades with giant floats, the recent marches and rallies in San Francisco have managed nonetheless to become dazzling spectacles. Ditto protests around the world. Whole families and church congregations are turning out with the rest of us, donning elaborate costumes and creating eye-popping placards and banners to catch the media's attention. Everybody's singing, dancing, playing instruments, and chanting with total abandon. And damn if it hasn't worked! We got the world's attention. Not with tanks, but with glitter and magic markers, we will win the revolution.

I marched with the Faeries the first time around, and stood on the sidelines for last Sunday's march, watching mesmerized as it all passed by in waves of human glory. For much of the time on Sunday, I stood on a curb near a young guy who was banging out a tune on a guitar, playing it over and over, which in ordinary circumstances might have been annoying, but somehow he captured the spirit of the march and his playing energized the masses as they strode by; many gave him wide grins and thumbs up. Inspired by the moment, I whipped out my trusty pennywhistle and played along, the sound soaring through the skyscraper canyon. We became an impromptu performing sensation, me and the guitar guy, two street musicians for peace.

It's possible to believe, when you're in the midst of a march so vast, so full of "ordinary" people as well as punks and freaks of all descriptions, that humans truly do have a conscience. We know that those corrupted by power, including the Bush administration, have abandoned conscience in favor of the will to conquer. It is plain on their faces, in their words and deeds, in their bluster and threats and determination to plunder for the rich and pillage against the poor. What happened to the promise of Colin Powell and Condi Rice as representatives of a long-oppressed people? They've bought into the warped schemes of those in power, undermining the treasured dream of Martin Luther King. Far from being free at last, they've joined those who would enslave the nation in fighting an unjust war, who would tax the poor relentlessly while giving every break in the world to the rich and powerful.

Certainly it's not all their fault. The culprit is clearly Dubya and his hard-line minders and minions — Karl Rove and Dick Cheney foremost among them—who care only about might, not right. They have a feel for guns, not art, and the only way they know to operate is by force and fearmongering, not by consensus and caring. Our current unelected government of the corporations, by the corporations, for the corporations sees art as mere window dressing, not as insight into the soul of humanity. Unlike the art of war, which crushes every canvas it touches, the art of peace is the spirit of openness and liberation. It's the act of imagining a better world for all — something our national "leaders" can't comprehend.

Rather than gird our feckless President for his corporate family's war, artists peacefully undermine his energy. Our efforts suck the wind out of Dubya's jet engines. Let's pray to the goddess (or whomever) that his war runs out of oil real soon. ▼

## Fri 21

### Jorge Natividad @ MACLA, San Jose

Opening reception: Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana (MACLA) presents "Negotiated Innocence," paintings by San Francisco-based gay artist Jorge Natividad, who creates intricate, mesmerizing fairy-tale scenes depicting a world of beauty, enlightenment and blissful sentiment. Says Natividad: "I paint a world that excites, stimulates and awakens the senses of a society lost in an existence that is mundane and detached from feelings and emotions." Along with his esteemed painting colleague and partner Tino Rodriguez, Natividad starts with classical myths, Latin American history, poetry and homoeroticism to build up intricately detailed portraits of enchanting, erotic dreamworlds. Also featuring Elizabeth Gómez, the MACLA showing is of major significance in the Latino arts world. 6-8pm. 510 S. First St., San Jose. Info: 408-988-ARTE; www.maclaeb.org

### 'No Exit' @ Theatre Rhino Studio

Expression Theatre Ensemble presents Jean Paul Sartre's No Exit, one of the most thoughtful and intriguing plays of the 20th century. He Expression Theatre Ensemble is a professional theatre group whose members take special interest in producing one-acts, short plays and sketches. Founder Andrey Esterlis trained in both Russia and US. His American stage credits include Walking the Dead at Theater Rhinoceros. \$15. Feb 13-March 9. Thu-Sat 8:30pm; Sun 7:30pm. Tix: 861-5079; ticketweb.com

### 'Thief River' @ NCTC

New Conservatory Theatre Center's "Pride Season 8" presents Thief River by playwright Lee Blessing, directed by Ed Decker. A moving story, told over three generations, about the lifelong, largely unrequited love affair of two men from a Minnesota farming community. Ray is the one who stays behind, forsaking his identity as a gay man for marriage, fatherhood and tradition. Gil moves to the big city where he has a succession of lovers, none of whom can erase his primary attachment to his first love. \$18-\$28. 8pm Wed-Sat; 2pm Sun. Matinees: 2/23, 30 at 2pm. Thru March 9. 25 Van Ness Ave. Tix/info: 861-8972; nctcscf.org

### 'In the Garden' @ NCTC

NCTC's "Pride Season 8" presents In the Garden, an Erotic Drama by Norman Allen, directed by Christopher Jenkins. It all begins in bed. Gabe, a bright young student, is lounging in the sheets of his philosophy professor, John. Before long, Gabe will be back in the same bed — this time with Muriel and Walter, John's wife and best friend. A sexual roundelay filled with passion, obsession, and spiritual inquiry. \$18-\$28. 8pm Thu-Sat; 2pm Sun. Matinees: 2/23, 3/3, 3/8, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30 at 2pm. Thru March 30. 25 Van Ness Ave. Tix/info: 861-8972; nctcscf.org

### ESP Project @ Magic Theater

The Erica Shuch Performance Project (ESP Project) presents vis-à-vis, a new dance theater work directed by Erika Shuch. A wild journey through a visceral landscape, juxtaposing the abstraction of global conflict with the immediacy of our daily personal wars. Featuring Samir Bitar (Za Za Dance Co.), Jennifer Chien (Scott Wells), Kathleen Hermesdorf, STEAM-ROLLER, Melanie Elms (Margaret Jenkins; Scott Wells), victoria kelly (poet, visual artist, singer), Kira Smith and Rowena Richie (Strange-fruit Theatre Ensemble; Z Space). Music by Ruben Rodriguez (Little Effie's Head). \$15. 8pm Feb. 21-23. Fort Mason Center, Bldg. D. Info: 441-8822. Tix: 558-8118.

counterPULSE @ 848 Community Space  
counterPULSE presents "This Time,

This Place: New Work, Physical Research and Movement Experiments," featuring dancers Jess Curtis (Fringe First Award in Edinburgh for fallen; three Isadora Duncan Dance awards); Rachel Lincoln (wee dance company; Sommer Ulricksen; Project Bandaloo); Ron Estes (contact improv studies at Ohio State and in Europe) and Leslie Selters (Jo Kreiter; Jess Curtis; Dandelion Dance Theater; Bebe Miller; SF Dance Center). \$10 (NOTAFLOF). 8:30pm. 848 Divisadero St. Tix/info: 435-7549; 848.com

### Cedric Brown @ Jon Sims Center

Jazz at JSCA: AIRspace artist-in-residence Cedric Brown performs "I Swing Like That." Inspired by the lives of Black gay musicians Billy Strayhorn and Andy Bey, Brown (Cleo Blue; Cultural Odyssey's Underground Jazz Cabaret; For Colored Boys...) breaks down traditional jazz norms, exploring how identity expresses itself through the stories of jazz standards and original music. He'll be joined by the 1150 Trio (Elise Giancola, Jory Cunningham, and Glen Iwoka). \$5-\$10 sliding. 8pm. 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th & S. Van Ness). Tix: 554-0402.

## Sat 22

### 'Heartbreakers Ball' @ The Center

Queer Jitterbugs presents "Heartbreakers Ball" with live Rockabilly Queer Swing. Featuring '50s big-band & rock sounds by the high-camp, hot-drag band The Woodyzy (www.the-woodyzy.com), comprised of Bubbles (trumpet), Ace (guitar), Cherry (vocals), Hank (bass), Sparky (vocals), Kitty (trumpet), Buddy (drums), Heloise (trombone), Frenchie (saxophone), and Johnny (vocals). With special performance by The Trans-formers. Slick back that hair, put on that poodle skirt and join in the fun. No partner or experience needed. \$15 (\$10 adv); under-21 half off; volunteers free. 7:30pm basic Rockabilly and Swing lessons; 9pm-midnight dancing. SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Info: 305-8242; www.queerjitterbugs.com

### 'Other Cinema' @ ATA Gallery

"Other Cinema" presents live and in the flesh: Animal Charm! (also performing as "Struthers & Field"). Originally out of the Chicago Art Institute, now living in LA, the duo will do an extended scratch-video set after showing their recent single-channel

works ("Change," "Moving Day," "Night Sky," "Computer Smarts") and other corrosive media pieces from Marc Moscato, Grady Sain, Davy Force et al. \$5. Free Pop Tarts. Doors open 8pm. 992 Valencia St. Info: 824-3890.

### Duy Nguyen's 'Things Unsaid' @ Jon Sims Center

The Jon Sims Center for the Arts presents Things Unsaid, a new play by gay, Vietnamese-American playwright Duy Nguyen. Produced by Paul Heller. Things Unsaid creates a deeply felt portrait of men being in love - and all the permutations of that love - as well as a world of missed chances, irreversible mistakes, and unspoken emotions amongst an extended Vietnamese-American "family of choice." A major new talent, Nguyen is a young multimedia performance artist who graduated from UC Berkeley. He arrived in the US at the age of six following a two-year odyssey as a boat refugee from Vietnam. In 1997 he co-founded Theater Rice, a student organization that creates and produces work by contemporary Asian American theater artists. \$10-\$15 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8pm Feb. 22 & Mar. 1; 2pm & 8pm Feb. 23 & Mar. 2. 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th & S. Van Ness). Tix/info: 554-0402; www.jon-simsctr.org

### Writer's Workshop @ ADL Bookstore

"A Different Light's Writer's Workshop." Bring copies of your prose and poetry, and a willingness to share. This informal gathering shares the last Saturday of every month on the store's back patio, weather permitting. Established authors will be invited to future gatherings to share insights into the creative process. Free. 2pm. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St. Info: 431-0891; adl-books.com

### Ghalib Shiraz Dhalla @ ADL Bookstore

Life for Ali, an ethnic East Indian from Kenya, consists of office work by day and intense cruising by night. Ghalib Shiraz Dhalla shares this banker's search for love and happiness in West Hollywood, his obsession over a deceptive ex-lover, and his overbearing "dramatic Indian mother" weaving a tale of life and love in his debut novel, Ode to Lata. Free. 3pm.

### 'Rainbow Celebration' @ Mission Peak Unitarian

In Fremont: Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation presents "Rainbow Celebration — A Dance for Everyone." This event is to celebrate the congregation's recent unanimous vote to become a "Welcoming Congregation" — one that welcomes, celebrates and affirms members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities. Upbeat and eclectic music will be provided by a DJ. \$5 donation. 7-10:30pm. Kidango Rix Center (formerly Tri-City Children's Center), 43100 Isle Royal, Fremont. Tix: Jo Ann Schriener at 510-657-5084; email hellojoann@aol.com.



Dancer Jess Curtis leaps into counterPULSE's "This Time, This Place" at 848 Community Space. See Friday.





"San Francisco Plantscape of the Future: The Castro," watercolor & acrylic, 22" x 30" by gay artist Richard Devlin, part of four solo exhibitions showing at the SF Arts Commission Galleries (City Hall) through April 27.

## Sun 23

### Connie Champagne @ The Plush Room

The legend returns: "Imagine Judy Garland: An Evening with Connie Champagne." Revered for her artistic excellence and dazzling performances, Connie brings genuine Judy charm to life. \$20 + 2-drink min. 8pm. 940 Sutter St. Tix: 885-2800.

## Mon 24

### 'QComedy' @ The Center

"QComedy Showcase," Monday Night Gay Comedy hosted by Marti MacGibbon from LA, with Janis Lipton, Erin Souza, Dana Cory, Ken Miller, Mike Speigleman, Nick Leonard, Stacey Ransom and Bridget Schwartz. \$8-\$15 sliding. Doors open 7:30pm; show at 8pm prompt. 1800 Market St. Tix: 865-5633; harveymilk.org. Info: QComedy.com

## Tue 25

### Lillian Faderman @ Modern Times Bookstore

Author of *Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers: A History of Lesbian Life in Twentieth-Century America*, *To Believe in Women*, and *Surpassing the Love of Men*, Lillian Faderman, born in 1940, was the only child of an unmarried immigrant Jewish woman whose family was killed in the Holocaust. As a young lesbian, Faderman became part of a tough milieu of addicts, pimps and prostitutes. She worked her way through college as a stripper, achieved a Ph.D., and has become a charismatic writer and influential scholar of gay and lesbian studies. Free. 7:30pm. 888 Valencia St. (at 20th St.). Info: 282-9246.

## Wed 26

### Will Self @ Booksmith

One of today's most imaginative and controversial writers, Will Self (*Cock and Bull*), has recreated Oscar Wilde's *Picture of Dorian Gray* in his new

novel *Dorian*. He calls it a "shameless imitation," set against the AIDS epidemic of the '80s and '90s in London and Manhattan. Free. 7pm. 1644 Haight St. Info: 863-8688; book-smith.com

### The Donnas @ The Fillmore

Local girls do good! After three increasingly successful indie releases, The Donnas' first major label album, *Spend The Night*, is finally breaking this Palo Alto quartet to a wider audience. First single "Take It Off" is a national radio hit, and with songs like "Who Invited You" and "You Wanna Get Me High," it's obvious that a bigger recording budget has only made these girls sound brasher and brattier. Playing with OK Go. \$16.50. 8pm. 1805 Geary (at Fillmore). Info: 346-6000. thefillmore.com

### 'Hedwig' @ Victoria Theatre

Kevin Cahoon stars in *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, by John Cameron Mitchell, with score by Stephen Trask, the story of "internationally ignored" rock singer Hedwig Schmidt. Born Hansel, in East Berlin, he dreams of finding his other half. He marries an American G.I. and reluctantly submits to a sex change operation. The operation is botched, and so is the relationship. Finding herself divorced and alone in a Kansas trailer, Hedwig forms a rock band and falls for Tommy Gnosis, who steals her songs and becomes the rock star Hedwig always dreamed she'd be. \$28. Wed-Fri 8pm; Sat 7pm & 10pm; Sun 7pm. Open-ended run. 2961 16th St. Info: 863-7576; victoriatheatre.org. Tix: 392-4400; tickets.com

### Paul Dresher Ensemble @ ODC Theater

Gala Opening Concert: The Paul Dresher Ensemble Electro-Acoustic Band, Opus Posth, and the Moscow Academy of Ancient Music (MAAM) inaugurate a festival of seven concerts at ODC Theatre, through March 2. The Dresher Ensemble will premiere commissioned works from younger Russian & American composers. Featuring the first US performances by the 12-member Russian contemporary string ensemble Opus Posth. The US debut of the MAAM showcases Baroque and Classic period music, in

a repertoire of music rarely or never before heard in the West. Next concert: Thu., Feb 27. \$20 (\$15 students/seniors). 8pm. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Tix/info: 863-9834; od-theater.org

## Thu 27

### 'Painting Allowed' @ Jon Sims Center

The JSCA in association with Lesbians in the Visual Arts presents "Painting Allowed: Lesbian Transgressions into the Modernist Painting Field," a slide lecture presentation by New Mexico-based artist Harmony Hammond. \$7-\$12 sliding. 8pm. 1519 Mission St. (at 11th St.). Tix/info: 554-0402; jonsimsctr.org

### 'Hyena Comedy' @ Double Play Bar

The Hyena Comedy Institute presents the "Hyena Comedy Showcase," featuring John DeKoven, Danny Ryan, Paul Ollinger, Marc Minor, Eric Peterson, Carrie Scott, Roscoe Bing, Susan DePhillips, Mr. Mystic and The Bulgarian Peasant Sluts. \$7. 8pm. 2401 16th St. (at Bryant). Tix/info: 821-3601; hyenacomedy.org

### Spanganga Gallery

"Make art happen or DIY trying" — An Independent Artist How-to Workshop Series — presents "To Self Publish or not Self Publish" Moderated by writer/spoken-word artist M.I. Blue. Blue (Dada Fest; Word Fuck). Featuring self-syndicated cartoonist/rapper Keith Knight (kchronicles.com; marginalprophets.com); renegade toy designer Attaboy (yumfactory.com), whose books include *I Hate Cartoons Vol. 1 and 2*, *Gush*, and who's part of the band Attaboy and Burke (attaboyandburke.com); and V. Vale, who in 1980 started RE/Search, which has published such books about underground culture as *Modern Pagans*, *Modern Primitives*, *Freaks*, and *Angry Women*. \$5. 6-8pm. 3376 19th St. (19th St. and Mission). Info: www.spanganga.org

### 'Chicken' @ The Marsh

Extended run: "Chicken: A 1-Ho Show," written and performed by David Henry Sterry, directed by David Ford. \$10-\$15 sliding. Thu-Sat 8pm. 1062 Valencia St. (at 22nd St.). Info: 641-0235.

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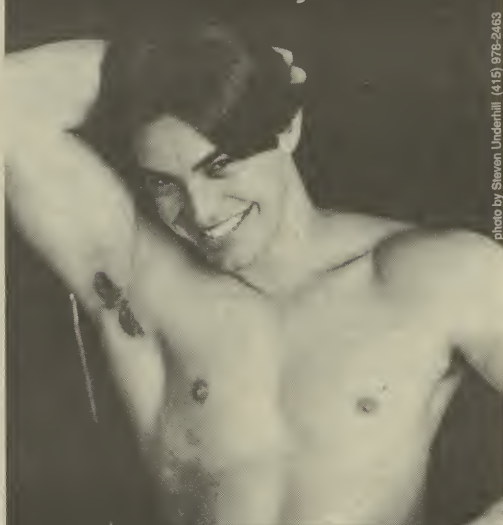


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Stephen Sticker

Local girls do good: The Donnas rock the Fillmore. See Wednesday.





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## Forget the freezing weather ... Leather action hot!

by Mister Marcus

**D**espite sub-zero temperatures in certain parts of the country, the heat was on as far as new titles, awards shows, and just plain leather action goes.

The fires heated up beginning on Wednesday, February 13 when Daddy's Bar in San Francisco staged their 2003 Mr. Daddy's Leather 2003 contest. At a celebrity-packed event, Lenny Broberg, Audrey Joseph and Jack Garcia put two contestants — John Caldera and Glen Tanking — through the usual paces. It was fun for me, emcee'ing the event, and the crowd was big and enthusiastic.

The contestants went through the interviews, stage appearances, leather image and questions from the judges. Amid all that, Lonnie Tuck managed to soothe the crowd with upbeat tunes that had the place rocking. The emperor and empress candidates were there, scoping out votes for the election held on Saturday.

There were some funny and poignant moments. Particularly noteworthy was outgoing Mr. Daddy's Leather Dan Alexander's stirring 11-minute step-down speech, in which he thanked everyone for their support.

There were lots and lots of leather women on hand, as well as a huge throng of Mama's family.

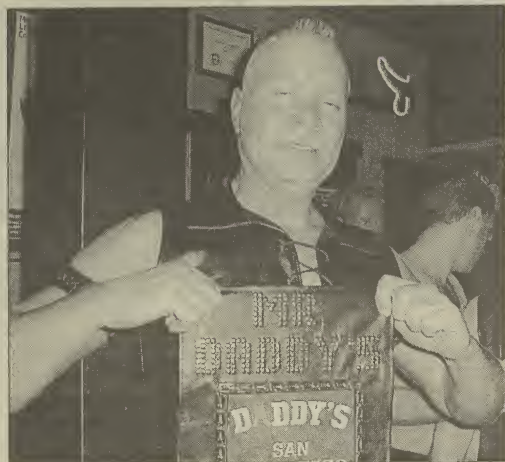
When all the votes were counted, Glen Tanking emerged as the winner. He will advance to compete for the Mr. San Francisco Leather 2003 title next month.

It was a great evening in the Disastro!

### Dateline Chicago

The weekend saw hordes of people gather in Chicago for the Mr. Cell Block Leather 2003 competition and the Pantheon of Leather Awards on Saturday, and the Mr. and Ms. Olympus Leather competition on Sunday.

The meet-and-greet on Friday at the Cell Block was jam packed with old and new friends. I was thrilled to join the judging panel



Here's Mr. Daddy's Leather 2003 Glenn Tanking, chosen at that bar last Thursday, Feb. 6. He advances to compete for the Mr. SF Leather 2003 title on March 8th.

with Marc Rosenberg, IML Stephen Weber, Patti Brown of the Leather Rack, and Thom Domkowski. We had a great time with the contestants: Don Grosso, Doug Sherwood, Ed Negron, Adrian Williams and Steve Plunkett all vying for Mr. Cell Block Leather.

Frank Nowicki went about the task of emcee'ing the contest, and hordes of leather title holders made the stage groan when they were all in place. The Cell Block was jam-packed with people from everywhere around the country, Canada and a few Germans as well.

The contestants were obliged to "write out" their sexual fantasies and the audience howled a lot at Frank's diction, but all eyes were on the female "signer" who really put some oomph into the translations for the hearing impaired.

When all the votes were counted, a 28 year old member of Onyx Club, Adrian Williams, emerged as the winner. Pandemonium rocked the house as Onyx members rushed the stage to congratulate one of their own.

Don Grosso was the 1st runner-up, and Ed Negron was the 2nd runner-up. Mr. Williams advances to compete for the IML 2003 title in May.

Since we judges were conducting the interviews of the Cell Block contestants, we were unable to attend Pantheon of Leather Awards on Saturday afternoon, so I do not have a list of the winners nor was I offered a print-out of them. I left Chicago at noon on Sunday, and at my deadline had heard no results of the Olympus title contests.

### Motorcycle Awards

In San Francisco, the annual Inter-Club Fund Motorcycle Awards were held on Saturday night, with a big turnout and a sumptuous dinner. The list of winners is too long to print here, but the major winners are:

Man of the Year: Dennis Silva;  
Most Supportive Business: Stompers Boots;  
Best SF Leather Contest: Mr. SF Leather.

Biker of the Year: Eric Gilford (Independent);

Buddy Rider of the Year: Michael Gagne, Golden Gate Guards; Woman of the Year: Jane

next page ►

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Thursday, February 20

Mr. June 2004 calendar contest gets underway at the Powerhouse at 2130 tonight. Judging: Corey Caballero, James Scott Geras and Glennon Sutter, with guest judge is Ray Tilton.

### Friday, February 21

The 15 Association celebrates their anniversary tonight with a sumptuous dinner at the SF Marriott Hotel. Cocktails at 1830; dinner at 1930 with a \$50 price tag. Play Party on Saturday at the usual location for \$15, plus a Play party and buffet on Sunday for \$25. Call 415-673-0452.

### Saturday, February 22

Imperial Coronation of the Emperor & Empress of SF at the Gift Center Pavilion. Who will rule for the next year? Be there!

In Southern California, the Mr. Ventura Bear contest.

### Wednesday, February 26

Scott Brogan steps aside as Mr. Edge Leather tonight as the contest takes place to decide his successor. It will be a themed affair with lots of fun for everyone concerned. Be there!

Leather Buddies is on at 933 Harrison tonight at the usual time and with the usual rules. You

want leather? It's guaranteed here! 777-HEAD for details.

### Thursday, February 27

A surprise/guest MC will conduct the Mr. July 2004 bare chest contest tonight with Jeff Taylor, Laura Federico, James Scott Geras and Dan Alexander judging.

### Weekend, February 28-March 2

Mr. and Ms. South Plains Leather competition in Dallas plus the International Slave and Master contests with the usual assortment of holy cows on hand. I'll be there judging so look for results here next week. For info, click on: [www.southplainsleatherfest.com](http://www.southplainsleatherfest.com).

### Saturday, March 1

Mr. Sisters Leather 2003 at the Gauntlet II in Los Angeles; In Seattle, Bill "The Hun" Schmelling is holding an art show & auction of new work and old at a private residence, sponsored by Mr. Ebony in Leather Vince Edd. For more info, click on: [www.vince@leatherecop.com](http://www.vince@leatherecop.com).

Also tonight: 3rd Anniversary of the Russian River Eagle up there in Guerneville with pin night and customer appreciation awards. Buffet, door prizes and the annual Soaring Eagle Awards.



## PORN

# Lust's last stand

Porn-star couple retires from the business

by John F. Karr

Ask them what they did for love, and in *Genre* magazine's February salute to couples, Peter Tiefenbach and Gregg Soukesian will tell you. They gave it up. Porn, that is. You know the couple better as Blake Harper and Colton Ford, and the fact that they give up not merely their *noms de porn* but their ages (32 and 40, respectively) may show how serious they are in announcing in the article their retirement from porn. It's all because of their deepening relationship. "I really wanted our intimacy to be special," Peter says. But don't give up hope, fans, because Peter adds, "We're not saying forever and ever, but for the time being."

You may console yourself with the following two out of the six movies the pair made together. It's a bit misleading to say Blake and Colton appear together in Mustang's two-part rouser *Aftershock* (MVP 67 & 68), because they share a dozen of pornom's hottest guys in the film's high-energy finale, but not each other. They come face to face at the opposite ends of two guys they're fucking, but it's not until after some massive guys have taken some massive arms of destruction up the wazoo and everybody has cum all over the friggin' set that Blake and Colton finally nestle together. In abrupt short order, Blake cums on Colton, they kiss, Blake sticks a finger up Colton's bum and Colton spurts a yard-long ribbon of cum, they kiss once more, a charming moment, and the movie's over.

*Aftershock* is one of those gargantuan brawls where director Chi Chi LaRue overwhelms you with more men committing more mayhem in far less time than you thought possible. Once again the varying environments of a sex club are churned up, from john to jail to the dungeon finale. These scenes are as successful as previous patented LaRue extravaganzas, and are cast with the juiciest studs to be had (Matthew Rush is a particular feast, his boyish image propped up with leathers and a stogie). But the movie also exhibits a familiar restlessness, scattering incident before us profusely. So it's the slow-down scenes of *Aftershock* that got me in the gut.

True, the 10 guys who rumble



Colton Ford has had enough of doing porn with his current b/f Blake Harper, and is retiring. Here he is in *Prowl 3: Genuine Leather*.

in a mechanic's garage are a large group, but the action is satisfyingly focused. Then there's an impressive quartet featuring Colton and two shaved-head daddies that ends in a fourway chain-fuck, and a lengthy sling scene in which Carlos Morales and two other bottoms receive the mighty dildos and Popeye-size forearm of Tom Chase.

For me, though, the sensation of the movie was two scenes with newcomers Jason Land and Rob Romoni. Jason is handsome/pretty, and Rob is handsome/rough. And they could be brothers, with the similarity of their humpy body types, chunky cocks, and dirty blond hair. Even their nipples are matching pairs. They play a rough back-alley game that includes kinky clothespin fun plus some tasty role-switching (I love it when a bottom takes over his top). In their second scene, the pair traumatize Nino Bacci, who writhes against his restraints and looks absolutely smashing in black leather chaps and cockring.

## The sin crowd

Blake and Colton get the finale of MSR Video's *Prowl 3: Genuine Leather* all to themselves. *Prowl 3* also has a sex-club setting, but has more of a sense of place, more sleazy atmosphere, perhaps due to

moody lighting, as well as director Tony Alizzi's willingness to linger on the action. Sinuously ripped stud Diego Alvarez makes his debut here, in what starts as a solo (although to call it that hardly hints at the way Alvarez smacks that startling Puerto Rican club of his around) and builds to an intense orgy as Michael Brandon, Brad McGuire and Carlos Morales rip Alvarez apart. The second scene presents a group work-over of that fascinating gay approximation of the mythological biker dude, Steve Cannon. With the apt description "Sinner" tattooed over his rump, Cannon is the embodiment of surly sexuality.

And then Blake and Colton arrive, for a lusty final duet that may shortchange fucking but offers some incredibly salacious rimming. Blake's astounding sphincter protrudes through a rim-chair like Pinocchio's nose after a lie, so far that Colton can suckle it like a teat and even, in a new form of docking, wrap his nose in it. No wonder they've retired. With all that they've got to offer each other, why would they want anyone else? ▼

www.falconstudios.com, (415) 431-7722; www.MRSvideos, (800) 228-8395

## Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

Randall of the ACLC;

Best Run of the Year: Golden Gate Guards, "Sweet 16".

Best Club Anniversary: Phoenix Uniform Club;

Best Bar Anniversary: Lone Star Saloon's 18th;

And would you believe it, there was a tie between Donna Sachet and Snatch for Impersonator of the Year?

It was a great show! Bravo to ICF, and congratulations to the winners!

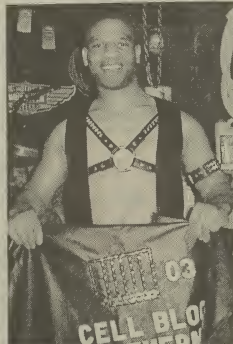
## Other stuff

In Baltimore, Maryland, C.O.M.A.N.D. — the Corps of Men Making A Noticeable Difference — celebrated their 15th anniversary over the weekend with

the Mr. Maryland Leather contest slated as part of their events. At my deadline, no results had been forwarded.

Lots of air traffic delays, cancellations and other weather-related snafus occurred all weekend, but a good time was had by all who traveled near and far to be part of the "brotherhood." Good show all around. Congratulations to all the awards winners and the newly sashed leather men and women.

The campaign for emperor and empress in San Francisco is over and this coming Saturday, February 22, we'll have the results. I hope you had the opportunity to vote. If you attend the coronation, be sure to watch for an anniversary presentation by at least two past monarchs. And thanks to Berlin and Barbie for a fun year with the title. It was indeed a year of camp and circumstance. ▼



Adrian Williams, 28, a member of the Onyx Club of Chicago, was chosen Mr. Cell Block Leather last Saturday night, Feb. 15. He advances to compete at IML in May 2003

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"Dolorosa," video by Bill Viola, in *The Passions* at the Getty: exploring the range of human emotions.

## LA art museums

### ◀ Arts cover

atricity might work in a major motion picture, or even an Edvard Munch painting, but in the sleek, tightly-focused production values of Viola's video, it's annoyingly affected. You'll probably wish the figures in these carefully realized compositions, as well as the artist himself, would just take a pill and get over it.

One notable exception is a flat-screen video called "Observance," in which a life-size range of figures queues up to look at an

unseen horror, their faces registering shock, horror and sorrow. One cannot help but imagine that they are looking at the excavated pit of the World Trade Center. But the figures, which seem like a multi-generational, multi-cultural mix of people any city-dweller might know, manage to seem like all of us, and their responses somehow seem less an acting exercise than a complex expression we all might have when those body-bags start piling up.

### Paper goods

Not far away at Westwood's

Hammer Museum, fast becoming LA's most exciting visual arts venue, with a range of adventurous main exhibitions and project spaces, an international survey of recent drawings provides a far more engaging pulse of current artistic activity. Mind you, *International Paper*, as they call it, isn't nearly as lofty in its aims, but the show forms a convincing picture of the youthful pulse of the contemporary art world. As the title implies, it's global in scope and focused on the ever-immediate medium of drawing on paper, and the occasional animation, which these days is rather quickly lumped in the same category.

Rather than being effusive, most of the work here is funky and modest. But that doesn't mean it's understated. Former San Franciscan Carolyn Castaño is flamboyantly peacockish with her watercolors of preening birds adorned with a drag-queenish rainbow of actual faux gems. They are vulnerable creatures masked in an aggressively stylish armor, seemingly naturally protected against the slings of reality. Current Bay Area resident Shaun O'Dell is also included, with works that express the difficult intersection of contemporary nature and culture.

That same mixture comes across dazzlingly in LA-based Tam Van Tran's glittering "Beetle Manifesto II," a sculptural drawing made of hole-punched paper stained with spirulina and chlorophyll, and held together with thousands of common office-staples. It's a breathtaking experience, its emotion expressed in human hours of sweat, devotion, and a surprising play of light. There's a low-key alchemy that takes place here that inspires true otherworldly wonder. And heaven knows we need that now. ▼



"Six Heads," video by Bill Viola: adding up to a full vision of humanity.

**Bill Viola: The Passions**, through April 27 at the J. Paul Getty Museum. (310) 440-7300, www.getty.edu

**International Paper**, through April 27 at the UCLA Hammer Museum, 10899 Wilshire Blvd., LA. (310) 443-7000, www.hammer.ucla.edu



## WHAT KALETRA HAS TO OFFER MAY SURPRISE YOU

ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT  
**kaletra**<sup>®</sup>  
(lopinavir/ritonavir)  
FOR THE TREATMENT OF HIV

KALETRA is indicated for the treatment of HIV infection in combination with other antiretroviral agents in patients 6 months of age or older. KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS and does not reduce the risk of passing of HIV to others.

#### Safety Information

KALETRA should not be taken if you have had an allergic reaction to KALETRA or any of its ingredients.

KALETRA must not be taken with certain drugs due to the potential for serious and/or life-threatening side effects. Discuss all medicines, including those without a prescription and herbal preparations, you are taking or plan to take with your doctor or pharmacist.

Pancreatitis and liver problems, which may cause death, have been

reported in patients receiving KALETRA. Tell your doctor if you have or have had liver disease such as hepatitis. Your doctor may want to monitor your liver function. In patients taking protease inhibitors, increased bleeding (in patients with hemophilia) and diabetes/high blood sugar have occurred. Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients receiving antiretroviral therapy. Some patients receiving KALETRA have had large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol.

The most commonly reported side effects of moderate or severe intensity are: abnormal bowel movements, diarrhea, feeling weak or tired, headache, and nausea. Children most often reported diarrhea, rash, taste aversion, and vomiting.

KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol.

Please see adjacent page for Patient Information.

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**KALETRA™**  
(lopinavir/ritonavir) capsules  
(lopinavir/ritonavir) oral solution

**ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with KALETRA.** Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

**Patient Information**

**KALETRA™**  
(kuh-LEE-tra)

Generic Name: lopinavir/ritonavir  
(lop-IN-uh-veer/rit-ON-uh-veer)

Read this leaflet carefully before you start taking KALETRA. Also, read it each time you get your KALETRA prescription refilled, in case something has changed. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor when you start this medicine and at check ups. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about KALETRA.

**What is KALETRA and how does it work?**

KALETRA is a combination of two medicines. They are lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is a type of medicine called an HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor. KALETRA is always used in combination with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. KALETRA is for adults and for children age 6 months and older.

HIV infection destroys CD4 (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) develops.

KALETRA blocks HIV protease, a chemical which is needed for HIV to multiply. KALETRA reduces the amount of HIV in your blood and increases the number of T cells. Reducing the amount of HIV in the blood reduces the chance of death or infections that happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

**Does KALETRA cure HIV or AIDS?**

KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections.

**Does KALETRA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?**

KALETRA does not reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex and do not use or share dirty needles.

**How should I take KALETRA?**

- You should stay under a doctor's care when taking KALETRA. Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- You must take KALETRA every day exactly as your doctor prescribed it. The dose of KALETRA may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.
- Dosing in adults (including children 12 years of age and older): The usual dose for adults is 3 capsules (400/100 mg) or 5.0 mL of the oral solution twice a day (morning and night), in combination with other anti-HIV medicines.
- Dosing in children from 6 months to 12 years of age: Children from 6 months to 12 years of age can also take KALETRA. The child's doctor will decide the right dose based on the child's weight.
- Take KALETRA with food to help it work better.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking KALETRA without first talking with your doctor.
- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- Be sure to set up a schedule and follow it carefully.
- Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give KALETRA to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

**What should I do if I miss a dose of KALETRA?**

It is important that you do not miss any doses. If you miss a dose of KALETRA, take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose.

**What happens if I take too much KALETRA?**

If you suspect that you took more than the prescribed dose of this medicine, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

As with all prescription medicines, KALETRA should be kept out of the reach of young children. KALETRA liquid contains a large amount of alcohol. If a toddler or young child accidentally drinks more than the recommended dose of KALETRA, it could make him/her sick from too much alcohol. Contact your

local poison control center or emergency room immediately if this happens.

**Who should not take KALETRA?**

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether KALETRA is right for you.

- Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. These could cause serious side effects that could cause death. Before you take KALETRA, you must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or are planning to take. These include other prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal supplements.

For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please read the section titled "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

- Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir or lopinavir.

**Can I take KALETRA with other medications?\***

KALETRA may interact with other medicines, including those you take without a prescription. You must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or planning to take before you take KALETRA.

**MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA:**

- Do not take the following medicines with KALETRA because they can cause serious problems or death if taken with KALETRA.
  - Dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine and methylergonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, Ergotrate Maleate, Methergine, and others
  - Halcion® (triazolam)
  - Hismanal® (astemizole)
  - Orap® (pimozide)
  - Propulsid® (cisapride)
  - Rythmol® (propafenone)
  - Seldane® (terfenadine)
  - Tambocor™ (flecainide)
  - Versed® (midazolam)
- Do not take KALETRA with rifampin, also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®. Rifampin may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.
- Do not take KALETRA with St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease KALETRA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to KALETRA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV medicines.
- Do not take KALETRA with the cholesterol-lowering medicines Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible serious reactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between KALETRA and Lipitor® (atorvastatin); talk to your doctor before you take any of these cholesterol-reducing medicines with KALETRA.

**Medicines that require dosage adjustments:**

It is possible that your doctor may need to increase or decrease the dose of other medicines when you are also taking KALETRA. Remember to tell your doctor all medicines you are taking or plan to take.

**Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with KALETRA, talk to your doctor about problems these two medicines can cause when taken together. You may get increased side effects of VIAGRA, such as low blood pressure, vision changes, and penis erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.**

- If you are taking oral contraceptives ("the pill") to prevent pregnancy, you should use an additional or different type of contraception since KALETRA may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.
- Efavirenz (Sustiva™) or nevirapine (Viramune®) may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood. Your doctor may increase your dose of KALETRA if you are also taking efavirenz or nevirapine.
- If you are taking Mycobutin® (rifabutin), your doctor will lower the dose of Mycobutin.
- **A change in therapy should be considered if you are taking KALETRA with:**
  - Phenobarbital
  - Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
  - Carbamazepine (Tegreto® and others)
 These medicines may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.
- **Other Special Considerations:** KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take metronidazole or disulfiram. Severe nausea and vomiting can occur.

- **If you are taking both didanosine (Videx®) and KALETRA:** Didanosine (Videx®) should be taken one hour before or two hours after KALETRA.

**What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?**

- This list of side effects is not complete. If you have questions about side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You should report any new

or continuing symptoms to your doctor right away. Your doctor may be able to help you manage these side effects.

- The most commonly reported side effects of moderate severity that are thought to be drug related are: abnormal stools (bowel movements), diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea. Children taking KALETRA may sometimes get a skin rash.
- Blood tests in patients taking KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Liver problems including death have occurred in patients taking KALETRA. In studies, it is unclear if KALETRA caused these liver problems because some patients had other illnesses or were taking other medicines.
- Some patients taking KALETRA can develop serious problems with their pancreas (pancreatitis), which may cause death. You have a higher chance of having pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain. These may be signs of pancreatitis.
- Some patients have large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.
- Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) occur in patients taking protease inhibitors such as KALETRA. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients need changes in their diabetes medicine. Others needed new diabetes medicine.
- Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking antiretroviral therapy. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.
- Some patients with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors.
- There have been other side effects in patients taking KALETRA. However, these side effects may have been due to other medicines that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Some of these side effects can be serious.

**What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?**

- **If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant:** The effects of KALETRA on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known.
- **If you are breast-feeding:** Do not breast-feed if you are taking KALETRA. You should not breast-feed if you have HIV. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that HIV can be transmitted through breast-feeding.
- **If you have liver problems:** If you have liver problems or are infected with Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, you should tell your doctor before taking KALETRA.
- **If you have diabetes:** Some people taking protease inhibitors develop new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you have diabetes or an increase in thirst or frequent urination.
- **If you have hemophilia:** Patients taking KALETRA may have increased bleeding.

**How do I store KALETRA?**

- Keep KALETRA and all other medicines out of the reach of children.
- Refrigerated KALETRA capsules and oral solution remain stable until the expiration date printed on the label. If stored at room temperature up to 77°F (25°C), KALETRA capsules and oral solution should be used within 2 months.
- Avoid exposure to excessive heat.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

**General advice about prescription medicines:**

Talk to your doctor or other health care provider if you have any questions about this medicine or your condition. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information Leaflet. If you have any concerns about this medicine, ask your doctor. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you information about this medicine that was written for health care professionals. Do not use this medicine for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not share this medicine with other people.

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## BOOKS

# A Paul Bowles treasury

The Library of America collects his novels, stories

by Jim Nawrocki

*Paul Bowles: The Sheltering Sky, Let It Come Down, The Spider's House*, edited by Daniel Halpern; The Library of America, \$35  
*Paul Bowles: Collected Stories and Later Writings*, edited by Daniel Halpern; The Library of America, \$35. *Colonial Affairs: Bowles, Burroughs, and Chester Write Tangier*, by Greg Mullins; University of Wisconsin Press, \$19.95

Some of the most original and valuable voices in American literature have

been those of its expatriates. Hemingway and his contemporaries were the most prominent examples of the post-World War I generation. After World War II, perhaps the most famous expatriate was Paul Bowles (1910-99), who moved to Tangier with his wife Jane in the '50s, and soon attracted a group of writers and artists, including prominent Beat authors like Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, William Burroughs, and many others.

Though Bowles is perhaps best-known for his 1949 novel *The Sheltering Sky*, he produced two others, as well as several volumes of short stories, travel writ-

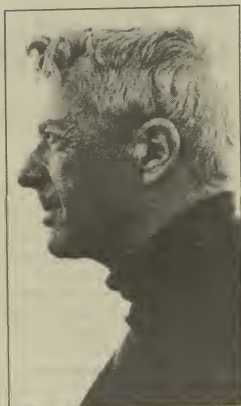
ings, and translations. He was also a photographer and an accomplished composer, producing music for plays and films over the course of an expansive and exceptional career. Bowles' complicated co-existence with Jane (both were homosexual) and the colorful life of his Tangier crowd have been chronicled in numerous books and biographies. The Tangier circle was also depicted memorably in the 1991 film *Naked Lunch*, based on the Burroughs novel of the same name.

Bowles is now given the recognition he deserves with the recent publication of two volumes of his work by the Library of America. For over 20 years, the Library of America has been publishing the works of America's greatest writers in a series that now numbers over 130 volumes. It includes the works of Walt Whitman, Willa Cather, Tennessee Williams, and Gertrude Stein, among others.

The series is designed to preserve America's literary heritage in handsome, durable volumes, and its editors have done well to include, in addition to the more recognizable names, those writers who have often been marginalized or overlooked. The two volumes of Bowles' work will help ensure that his novels and stories reach a wider audience for years to come.

## Moroccan weather

In the first volume, editor David Halpern has assembled the three novels *The Sheltering Sky*, *Let It Come Down* and *The Spider's House*, along with a detailed chronology of Bowles' life and career, textual notes, and a helpful glossary that covers Moroccan terms no doubt unfamiliar to most American readers. Morocco is such a powerful presence in Bowles' novels that one almost feels the need to brush the sand



Paul Bowles in 1969.

from their pages. He evokes the landscape and its people vividly, but these are deeply felt, almost mysterious explorations of human politics, sexuality and existence.

In the second volume, Halpern has brought together short stories from such collections as *The Delicate Prey* and *Other Stories*, A

next page ►

## Royalty rocks out! 'Coronation 38' Saturday

by Sweet Lips

I hope everyone had a great Valentine's Day! I know I did! It is wonderful at my age (80) to still find happiness.

I ran into a person the other day who looks younger than when I met him in 1960 — the fabulous Franklin, who is so very talented. I don't know how you do it, honey, but I want your secret!

The city's royalty will turn out this Saturday, February 22, for the fabulous Coronation event. A bevy of beautiful people from all over the country will be here for the festivities, so let's show them our great hospitality.

The United Rockstar Court of Truth or Dare, under the direction of The Imperial Council of San Francisco, Inc., is presenting this fab Coronation event, titled, *Carnivale: Rockstars in Rio*. The big bash will take place South of Market at the Gift Center Pavilion (888 Brannan St.). The doors open at 5 p.m., and the ball takes place at 6 p.m. Rock Star Emperor Berlin and Rock Star Empress Barbie LaChoy rule. Tickets range from \$30-\$65 reserved, or \$25 standing room only. For details and tickets, contact Absolute Empress XXV Marlana, 864-6672, or at marlenaXXV@sbcglobal.net, or visit the Imperial Council's website at [www.imperialcouncilsf.org](http://www.imperialcouncilsf.org).

On Friday, February 21, from 5-8 p.m. at Club Rendez-Vous, there will be an "Anniversary Monarch's Reception." Come meet the Anniversary Monarchs who will celebrate their anniversaries at either the Coronation or at the "Out-of-Town Show."

The doors for the "Out-of-Town Show" at the Holiday Inn (Van Ness & Pine) open at 7 p.m., show at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

By the way, The Portland Party and Emperor & Empress of Alcatraz Contest on Saturday, February 22 at Club Rendez-Vous (1312 Polk St.) at 11 a.m. is not a fundraiser for Mame (though she deserves it), but for an educational group in Portland. So come join the Imperial Sovereign Rose Court for the fun, and help make Portlanders smarter.

On Sunday, February 23, at 9 a.m., the Widow Norton makes her annual Pilgrimage to Emperor Joshua Norton's Grave in Woodlawn Cemetery. Buses leave the Holiday Inn at 8:15 a.m. and return by 11:30 a.m. After your return to the Holiday Inn, enjoy the "Victory Brunch" at 11:30 a.m., when the new Wuzzies give out their special awards and the new monarchs try to look like they had eight hours of sleep! Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door.

Later on Sunday, at Marlana's (488 Hayes St.), dress warm for the "Alaska Party" at 3 p.m. It's the fundraiser hosted by the Imperial Court of All Alaska to benefit the new Monarch's Fund.

I hear that the wonderful Marlow is still in the Castro at Uncle Bert's on weekends, working the day shift. He sure knows how to bring the beauties into the bar.

The Lush Lounge on Post and Polk is a beautiful room and has some of the finest entertainment nightly, so drop by and have a great time.

The N' Touch Bar on Polk St. is a great place to meet young, attractive Asian men. Try them, you'll like them.

Little Mikey is still holding forth at Reflections Bar on Polk Street, and looking good after more than six months on the wagon. Congrats! Also, welcome home, David, after months of vacation in the mysterious Far East! What secrets did you learn? ▼



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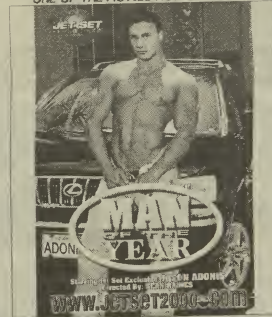
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# Extorting queers

'Neat little thriller' 'Victim' is out on DVD

by Gary Morris

Basil Dearden's excellent thriller *Victim* was released in 1961, during roughly the same time as the ascension of Britain's "angry young men," playwrights like John Osborne (*Look Back in Anger*) who rejected clichés of fussy, stuffy Britannia in favor of a more edgy, neorealist-inflected, working-class image. *Victim*, with its location shooting,

noirish lighting, and doomed characters, has more than a little of the "angry young men" feel.

But there's another kind of young man in the pop-culture mindset: the "sad young man," the inward-turning, marginalized, hunted and haunted homosexual of the pre-Stonewall era, as discussed by Richard Dyer and others. *Victim* beautifully dovetails these tropes in what star Dirk Bogarde too humbly called a "modest, tight, neat little thriller"

about a ring of blackmailers extorting money from closeted queers.

*Victim* is on one level a classic "liberal problem picture," attempting to use cinema to explore a pressing issue of the day. But unlike most such films, this one is so intricately plotted and well-acted that the topical elements never overtake the drama. This is no small accomplishment, given the film's clear polemical objective of calling attention to the injustice of jailing gay men simply for being gay.

In the opening scene, a handsome, nervous-looking young man looks down from a steel girder high above the ground to see a police car arriving. He flees in desperation. A series of encounters follows between this character, Jack Barrett (Peter McEnery), and a variety of equally nervous other men, some older, some younger, but all seemingly tortured by some secret the film keeps barely, tantalizingly out of the viewer's reach.

Eventually it all comes clear. It seems that Barrett (lovingly called "Boy Barrett" in the queer underground) has embezzled money from his company to pay blackmailers who know he's gay, and the company has put the police on him. But typical of the film's alternating visions of cruelty and self-sacrifice, prole Barrett is protecting a much bigger target, wealthy barrister Melville Farr (Bogarde), with whom he was in love. Farr mistakenly interprets Barrett's desperate phone calls as blackmail attempts, inadvertently triggering the young man's suicide in a jail cell.

The remainder of the film is a labyrinthine exploration of a particular corner of London's criminal underground: unknown blackmailers and the gay men they



Dirk Bogarde turns in a knockout performance in *Victim* (1961).

victimize. As Farr himself is closed in on by the blackmailers, he must decide whether to expose them and ruin his career and his marriage in the process, or continue to pay extortion "for a kind of security" that he knows will keep the whole rotten system going.

## Breakdown place

Dirk Bogarde's portrayal of the increasingly beleaguered barrister is not only a knockout performance in itself, but represented a major shift for the actor, who took the role after it was turned down by most of Britain's major stars as too controversial. Bogarde is a restrained, sometimes remote, but enormously commanding actor, and when he breaks down, as he does a couple of times in *Victim*, the effect is bracing. With consummate skill he limns the dilemma of a principled man whose world may collapse because of what might seem, in another time and place, a simple indiscretion. Sylvia Syms provides solid support as the equally stressed wife.

*Victim* also presents a gallery of memorable minor characters. One of them, aging hairdresser Henry (Charles Lloyd Pack), has a brilliant scene in which he movingly describes his terror of going back to prison for his lifestyle: "I've made up my mind to be more 'sensible,' as the prison doctor used to say. I don't care how lonely, but sensible." Typical of the film's unflinching portrayal of uncertain lives in which violence can occur at any moment, Henry is brutalized shortly thereafter by another memorable character, the blackmailer, a creepy, sexy, smirking teddy-boy in black goggles and black leather. Another sign of the film's progressiveness are its hints that the hunky

teddy-boy is queer himself.

It's a tribute to scriptwriters Janet Green and John McCormick, director Basil Dearden, and an exceptionally good cast that the film (reputedly the first in Britain to use the word "homosexual") retains much of its punch today, despite the disappearance of "homosexual blackmail," and the reform of antigay laws that followed in Britain a few years later.

The quality of Home Vision's digital transfer of *Victim* (from the legendary Janus library) can't be faulted; it captures equally well the bleak wintry whites and velvety blacks of the cinematography. Extras include an informative insert essay by David Thomson, and the remarkable theatrical trailer in which even the "omniscient trailer voice" can't quite say "the word": "They are all victims ... victims of ... what?" Even better is a half-hour BBC interview with Bogarde shot soon after *Victim*. It's both amusing and revealing, as the interviewer tries but fails to impress on the bemused Bogarde how problematic his choice of *Victim* might have been: "You must feel very strongly on this subject to risk losing possibly a large part of your following by appearing in such a bitterly controversial part." Of course, the interview may have known what most people didn't at the time, that Bogarde was in fact gay himself. Ironically, unlike his character, Bogarde was never forthcoming about his private life (with his longtime companion Tony Forwood, once the husband of actress Glynis Johns). His role in *Victim* showed bravery enough for 1961, and must have been as much as he could do at the time. ▼

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## Paul Bowles

◀ previous page

*Hundred Camels in the Courtyard* and *Midnight Mass*, as well as uncollected stories and some of Bowles' nonfiction writings. Bowles is a masterful storyteller, and his tales seem to carry a fundamentally dark, comic vision of humanity. In "A Distant Episode," a professor of linguistics who is doing fieldwork in Morocco meets with a particularly cruel fate. "Pages from Cold Point" explores the disturbing dynamic of a father and the young son who is sexually attracted to him. Bowles' nonfiction work is represented by such essays as "The Rif, to Music," in which Bowles combines his fascination with Moroccan culture with his love of music. In particular, it describes his work for the

Rockefeller Foundation in recording samples of Moroccan music.

Those interested in the life and work of Bowles will also want to read the new study by Greg Mullins, *Colonial Affairs: Bowles, Burroughs and Chester Write Tangier*. The book examines the work of Bowles, Burroughs, and the lesser-known novelist Alfred Chester. Both Burroughs and Chester spent time in Tangier with Bowles, and their lives and work were indelibly marked by Morocco. This slim volume (which includes several photos) is a helpful examination of the three writers' work. It also touches upon the work of the many European, American and native Moroccan writers who moved through Tangier during the Bowles era there. With the arrival of these three books, Bowles fans have something to celebrate. ▼



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**Blow Buddies Thurs. 1/9/03**  
You worked my suppersensitive nipples as I took every single inch of your big, fat, uncult meat. It was hot for both of us. Let's do it again. ☎ 72404

**"Salvador,"**  
Nobody kisses like you—Lawrence. ☎ 72405

**"Hey There Littleman"**  
To the Artist formerly known as my boyfriend: Happy belated. That's all. No strings. P. "The canvas must blush. You flatter it so." ☎ 72418

**Half Indian Ex-Mormon On Market**  
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GAM 5'6", 120lb 28years. Looking for relationship around my age. Please call. ☎ 72389

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**Nice Young GLM 4 GWM Or GLM**  
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**Poz Looking For Real Man**  
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**GWM 53 HIV- Oral Bear**  
Seeks Latino/Asian cubs for nights out and nights in. Please no drugs or fens. ☎ 72408

**Seeking Relationship**  
Single mature WM good height/weight proportion, disease/drug free, ISO similar buddy for mutual pleasure, J/O, oral, massage etc. ☎ 72420

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**Dirty Old Man Wants Your Ass**  
GM top (not versatile) 68 5'7", 155 need G.W. masc./submissive bottom. ☎ 72379

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**Taker Needs Giver**  
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**Visiting Santa Cruz/ Monterey??**  
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**Effeminate Men**  
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**Spank Your Butt**  
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**Cock And Balls Serviced!**  
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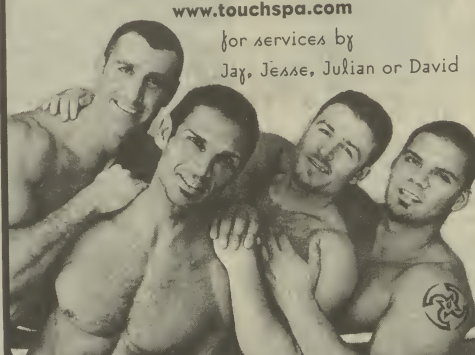
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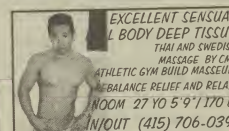
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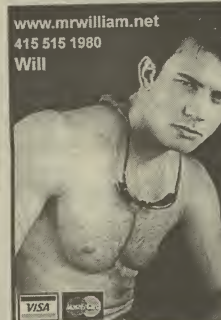
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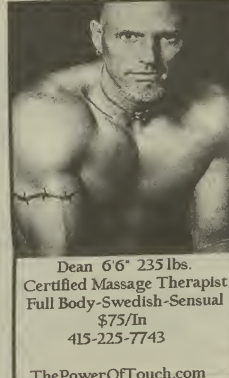
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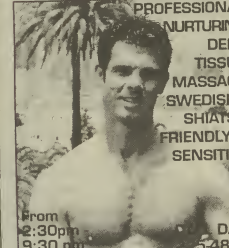
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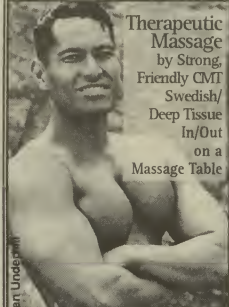
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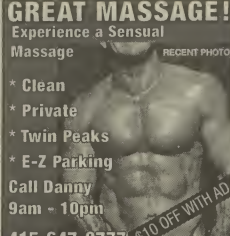


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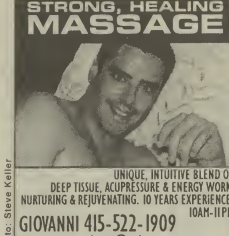
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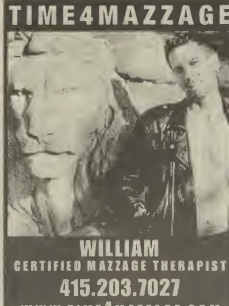
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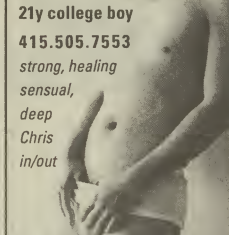
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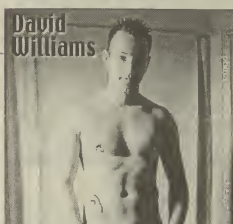
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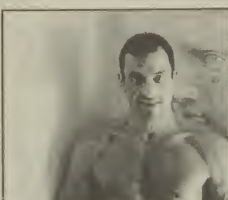
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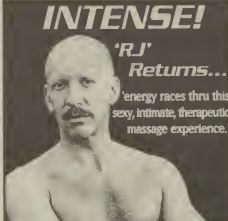
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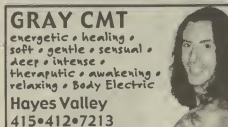
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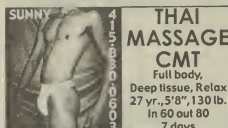
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Erotic full body massage  
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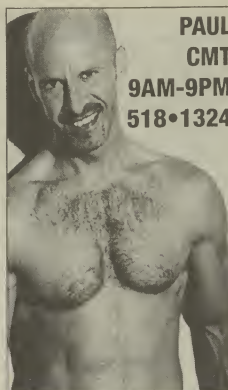
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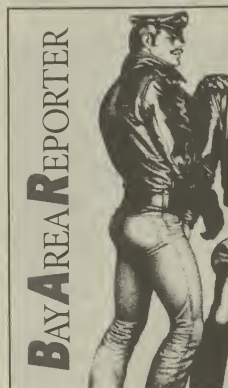
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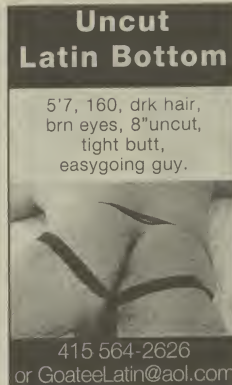
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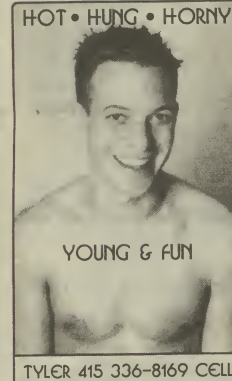
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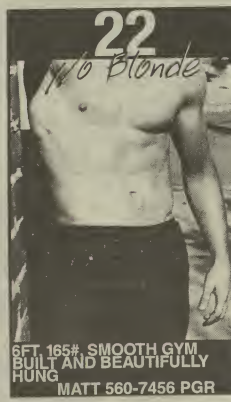
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27, 5'6", 140# smooth, athletic  
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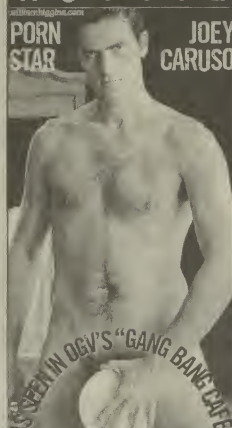


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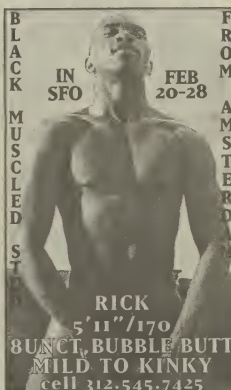


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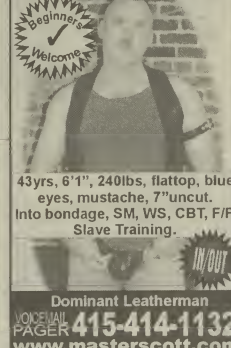
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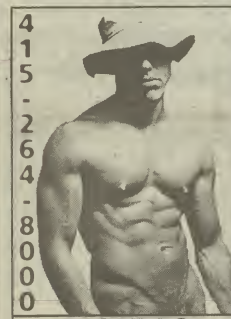
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Into bondage, SM, WS, CBT, F/F,  
Slave Training.

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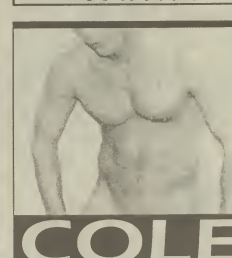
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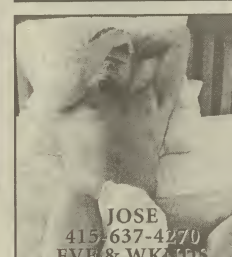
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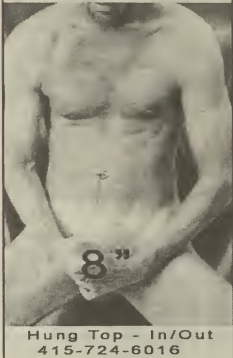


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# BAY AREA REPORTER

## BAY AREA REPORTER

## PERSONALS ORDER FORM

Indicate  
Type Style  
Here ▼

**X-BOLD** Stops Here ▼

**BOLD** Stops Here ▼

**CAPS** Stop Here ▼

Regular Stops Here ▼

### DEADLINE

**NOON on MONDAY.**  
Payment *must* accompany ad.  
No ads taken over the  
telephone. If you have a  
question, call 415.861.5019.  
Display advertising rates  
available upon request.

### RATES

First line, Regular 4.50  
All subsequent lines 3.00  
CAPS double price  
**BOLD** double price  
**X-BOLD** triple price

### PAYMENT

- ☐ Cash  
☐ Personal Check  
☐ Money Order  
☐ Visa  
☐ MasterCard

Minimum \$10 charge  
on Visa and MasterCard.

### CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Card Number

Expiration Date

Signature

Name

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Name

Telephone

Address

City

State

Zip

Number of Issues

Classification

Amount Enclosed

**MAIL WITH  
PAYMENT TO:**  
BAY AREA  
REPORTER  
395 Ninth Street  
San Francisco, CA  
94103

**OR FAX TO:**  
415.861.8144

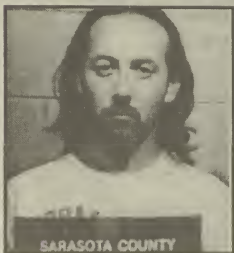


## PERSONALS

## PEOPLE

## GET LUCKY TONIGHT

ON THE  
XXX CONFIDENTIAL CONNECTION!  
Call 18+ LISTEN & RECORD FREE!  
415-247-2000  
Use Access code 1778



## BI CURIOUS Locals

Live Male Chat.  
Record/listen to ads FREE!  
415-402-1010 or  
1-888-272-7277 T/F  
FREE w/code 2166

## BODY SHAVING

Body trimming and shaving  
Body waxing (advance) trained  
Walnut Creek by Alan 510-506-6009

## BAD BOYS SPANKED

over Daddy's knee. (415) 864-2766

WM will JO/BJ/Rim ALL races 18-30, fit. S Cruz Co 831-722-3739

Like nudepictures 18-23 only. If you are Asian only with 12" to 15" inch dick & like to fuck all time or be sucked all the time for hours anytime. Pager: 415-356-8815

Expert back, bodyshave & trim \$20  
Hr+Travel Robert • (415) 777-5911

## SPANK ME

Visiting x-football jock needs bare ass spanking. 6', 230 Lbs fat buns, call 1:00 to 6:00PM Pacific time on 2/18 and thereafter, photo available (716) 868-5496.

## CASTRO BODY GROOMING

Personal areas to full body  
Confidential/Private/Affordable  
Licensed! 415-282-1997\*\*MARK\*\*

EAST BAY  
BODY WAXING  
AND BODY  
SHAVING

Body trimming and shaving  
Body waxing (advance) trained  
Walnut Creek by Alan 510-506-6009

## CONGRATULATIONS TO:

## ADRIAN WILLIAMS

Mr. Cell Block Leather (Chicago)  
and good luck at I.M.L. in May!

MR. SAN FRANCISCO  
LEATHER 2003

will be chosen on March 8th 2003.  
Be the 25th man from the world's  
greatest leather community to represent  
San Francisco at IML in May!!  
No sponsor needed. No obligation to  
a bar or business sponsor. Be a man.  
Do it on your own! Show your leather  
pride to the world in Chicago!

## CONGRATULATIONS TO

## GLEN TANKING

MR. DADDY'S LEATHER 2003  
and good luck at the Mr. SF Leather  
Contest on March 8th. Question: If  
Snatch wins the crown, what will prevail  
in your household? The Sash or  
the Crown? Inquiring minds need  
want to know!!!

Gdltg East Bay GWM, 38, sks ctn  
cut GWM 18-37 for dating/LTR/live-  
in. N/S. N/D. HIV-. Mail: Box 53.  
395 Ninth St., SF, CA 94103.

Good Head in Sonoma County.  
Call Days 707-823-3895

Concord GAM luv's sucking cock  
Sks 20-40s STD/HIV- G/BI/BL/WM  
Pls no overweights 925 671 2704

S.F. SPANK PARTY INFO  
415-864-2766 or Private Session

## XXX WEB

SIDE EFFECTS  
REPORTED ON  
M4M!

- Constant shortness of breath at night
- Pressing need to buy more sheets
- Day-dreaming about tonight's date



© 2003 ADVANCE MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

M4M Delivers.

**m4m4SEX.com**  
WHAT YOU REALLY WANT ALL THE TIME!



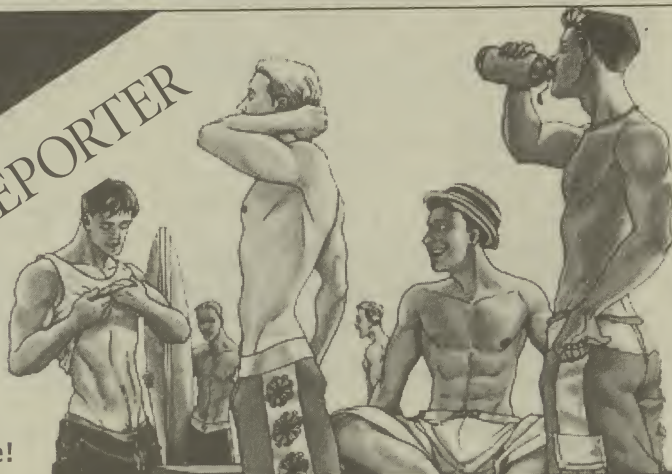
## HOTOLDERMALE.COM

Hot daddies and their admirers.  
Photo ads, galleries, models,  
Looking for daddy models 40-65.  
models@hotoldermale.com  
Call 800-837-6007

E09

BAY AREA REPORTER

news you can use...  
plus a whole lot more!





forum >

## Positive Sex

A conversation among HIV-positive gay and bisexual men about sex – having it, wanting it, needing it. This will be a place to gain information, share experiences and get real with other positive guys.

THURSDAY | March 13 | 6:30 – 9pm  
The Center | 1800 Market Street (at Octavia Street)



### positive space > castro | March 4 ☒

New digs for Positive Space in the Castro. Harvey's is the place to be. Pretzels and other munchies are on us, and Harvey's full kitchen is at your disposal. Join other HIV+ gay/bi men at one of our regular events and speak your mind, bare your soul and get connected. No drama, no issues – we'll even provide the topic of conversation (and snacks).

TUESDAY | 6:30 – 8pm | Harvey's | 500 Castro Street (at 18th Street)

### positive space > date night | March 14 ⌚

Express dating goes monthly! Learn new communication skills and practice them on the nearest Positive Force guy. Painless practice makes perfect.

FRIDAY | 6:30 – 8pm | Castro Community Space | 501 Castro Street (at 18th Street)

### plus additions | March 18 ✚

Have you recently been to a PLUS Seminar but missed some information? Do you want to re-connect with other former PLUS participants? Then plan on coming to PLUS Additions, where each month a topic from the PLUS weekend will be discussed in depth.

TUESDAY | 6:30 – 8pm | Positive Force Offices | 539 Castro Street (18th/19th)

### café positive | March 20 ☕

Ready for a new afternoon routine? Make a date with other HIV+ men at Café Positive, the daytime social support event that's open to everyone and hosted by the volunteers of the Castro Country Club. Gab with the guys about the latest treatment newflash and what you think is around the corner. Beverages and light lunch are on us!

THURSDAY | 1 – 3pm | Castro Country Club | 4058 18th Street (Castro/Hartford)

### positive space > chat café | March 26 ☕☒

Bring your gift of gab to this coffee talk. Where better to get through your Hump Day than with the men of Positive Force?

WEDNESDAY | 6:30 – 8pm | Chat Café | 498 Sanchez Street (at 18th Street)

### positive space > soma | March 27 ☒

Is SOMA your neighborhood? Think the Castro is just a little too chi-chi? This is Positive Space with a leather twist. Come see and be seen. Join other HIV+ gay/bi men at one of our regular events and speak your mind, bare your soul and get connected. No drama, no issues – we'll even provide the topic of conversation (and snacks).

THURSDAY | 6:30 – 8pm | Powerhouse | 1347 Folsom Street (at Dore Alley)



**Volunteer with  
STOP AIDS!**

E-mail us at:  
[volunteer@stopaids.org](mailto:volunteer@stopaids.org)  
or call (415) 575-0155  
for information.

**STOP  
AIDS  
PROJECT**

Positive Force is a program  
of the STOP AIDS Project  
by and for all HIV+  
gay and bi men.

